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Saga over Town Hall plan takes new twist

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

MYSTERY continues to surround a report, finally made public this month, examining options for the hugely controversial plans to redevelop the town centre civic complex.

The report, commissioned by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council chiefs from property consultancy firm King Sturge, considered different options that would allow the council to leave the Town Hall for it to be redeveloped.

It has only now come to light after a near year-long Freedom of Information fight.

Seven alternatives including relocating to the Great Hall car park, Union House in the Pantiles, the North Farm industrial estate, the Land Registry in Hawkhurst, Paddock Wood and Southborough were outlined.

The council has refused to say why the report, which was published in December 2009 and updated in February 2010, had not been made public or

whether any of the options were still being considered.

The executive summary of the report says: "TWBC required this strategy review to progress its plans for the redevelopment of the town hall and to ultimately aid regeneration of the town centre."

For resident John Goodfellow, who used a Freedom of Information request to get it released, initially lodged in June last year, the answer is clear.

"The King Sturge report has confirmed our understanding of the position – that the former cabinet did not want to consider modernising the Town Hall and civic complex and did not want the public to know this," he said.

The accommodation study report does not consider redeveloping and modernising the Town Hall for the council's use and includes only an option of it staying in the building as it is.

It states: "The conclusion of this report is that TWBC has viable options to

Continued on page 2



ROYAL DATE FOR HOP FARM

■ **PURPLE REIGN:** Prince is set to headline the Hop Farm Festival. **SEE PAGE 3**

May 22, 2011 • No 106

FOOD

Tasty treat at the Pantiles

THE first ever Pantiles Food Festival takes place this weekend with crowds set to flock for the very best locally produced food and drink.

A series of special events are planned with cooking demonstrations and market stalls to show the cream of the region's produce.

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PLANNING

Have your say on housing

RESIDENTS are being given the chance to have their say on future housing targets as the council reviews its Core Strategy.

It wants opinions on the use of Green Belt land for development as well as topics such as Hawkhurst's designation as a town or village.

PAGE 5

HISTORY

Our hospitals, different eras

A FASCINATING haul of photographs and documents have shed light on the history of both the Pembury and Kent & Sussex hospitals.

Images dating back a century reveal the changing face of our health care and how plans to merge the two have existed for decades.

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Dover	02.13	6.4	14.33	6.4
Margate	03.13	4.7	15.29	4.5
St Mary's	08.06	5.2	20.27	5.3

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday	Max 18C	Min 8C
Monday	Max 19C	Min 10C
Tuesday	Max 19C	Min 10C
Wednesday	Max 18C	Min 9C
Thursday	Max 18C	Min 9C
Friday	Max 19C	Min 9C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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HEALTH CARE

Fight for hospital beds to continue

By **Jenna Pudelek**
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HEALTH campaigners have vowed to keep fighting for 24 beds to remain at Tonbridge Cottage Hospital, despite plans to reduce the amount by half.

The NHS in west Kent revealed that from September, 12 of the beds will be used as a rehabilitation unit for stroke patients after they receive acute care at the new hospital at Pembury.

The Kent Community Health Trust said the loss of half the general rehabilitation beds at the Vauxhall Lane site would be accounted for through extra provision at Sevenoaks, Edenbridge and Gravesend hospitals.

"We have nothing against them providing the lost beds elsewhere in the short-term, but we are fighting for a commitment to have a rebuild at Tonbridge to put back those 12 beds," Dr David Goodridge, chair of the hospital's League of Friends, said.

"If you've got to go to a community hospital you want it to be a close as possible, not off in Edenbridge where people might find it difficult for relatives to visit. We should have beds roughly distributed to what the demand is.

"If there is demand, which we proved

in 2007, for 24 beds for Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Paddock Wood patients, they should be at Tonbridge."

The friends group has a history of fighting hard to protect the number of beds at Tonbridge.

Dr Goodridge said there were originally about 30 beds at the hospital, which was cut to 14 in 2006 due to a "financial crisis" in the local NHS.

But GPs demanded an audit of how many people needed to be admitted and found 24 beds were required.

Once again they are under threat. Dr Goodridge said: "We have been arguing that the system cannot cope with 12 beds and the rest going off to Sevenoaks and Edenbridge."

Mark Shepherd, interim director of operations in west Kent for the Kent Community Health Trust, said space on the Tonbridge site had been found for an extra two beds meaning that 10 would be provided elsewhere.

Asked why more space for beds could not be found on the existing site, he said: "It really was not possible. This is about trying to deliver high quality healthcare as close to home as possible."

He said the trust had invested in other community services such as community matrons who now look after pa-



IN THE COMMUNITY: The Tonbridge Cottage Hospital will only have 12 beds

tients that previously would have been admitted to an acute or community bed in their homes.

Patients with illnesses such as chronic diabetes, asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), which is a collection of lung diseases that make it difficult to breathe, can all be treated by the community matrons with support from a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week rapid response team.

Mr Shepherd said in the last 12 months the service had prevented 782 A&E admissions, 1,936 hospital admissions and 1,389 GP home visits.

"The NHS routinely admitted these

patients five years ago and now they are cared for in the community," he said. "Had we not put these changes in places there would have been other demands on services over time. We've lessened the pressure and need for some of those beds."

He said community beds at Tonbridge were well used, with an occupancy rate of between 90 and 95 per cent.

The NHS' solution is to provide an extra two at Edenbridge and Sevenoaks and another six at Gravesend.

Mr Shepherd said he had agreed to the League of Friends' request for an audit of all the patients in west Kent's 131 community beds to ask if they had chosen the hospital or would prefer to be at a different site.

He added that there would be no job losses in the service shake-up.

A Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust spokesman said: "From September, acutely ill stroke patients in Tunbridge Wells will receive their complex care on a dedicated specialist ward in the new hospital at Pembury."

"Once the acute part of their care is complete, and patients are on the road to recovery, they will be transferred to a newly-refurbished stroke rehabilitation unit in Tonbridge Cottage Hospital."

CIVIC CENTRE

'The town hall debate has since moved on'

Continued from front page

relocate and release the present Town Hall site for redevelopment. What is more, there are significant efficiency gains to be had both in terms of space occupation and collaborative working practices."

The council was forced to publish the report on its website after the Information Commissioner's Office, which protects people's right to access documents in the public interest, ordered it to be disclosed in a critical decision notice listing various procedural failures.

A TWBC spokeswoman said: "Kings Sturge was appointed to produce this report in 2009. The final version is now over a year old. Following the report, the council considered purchasing the Land Registry building but ultimately decided not to pursue this further.

"The debate concerning the future of the town hall has since moved on."

The council scrapped plans to buy the Land Registry building, which was the preferred option in the report, in November last year, stepping aside to allow one of the town's biggest

employers, AXA PPP, to meet its expansion plans and stay in Tunbridge Wells.

Cripps Harris Hall has declared its intention to turn Great Hall car park into office space with the plans on hold while an urban parking strategy is carried out.

The council refused to comment on the other reserve option, which was an undisclosed space in Southborough. However, as former chief executive Sheila Wheeler mentions in her interview for the report, there is "too much traffic" on the busy A26.

Mr Goodfellow said he had wanted to make the report public so that it could inform the debate on the future of the civic complex, which includes the Town Hall, Assembly Hall Theatre, police station and museum and art gallery.

"Our basis is that all information should be available so we can all look at the problem and see what the reality is in order to make the best decision," he said.

A consultation carried out by M&N Communications on behalf of the council is set to be made public at the end of

this month. The Tunbridge Wells Regeneration Company, the joint venture between the council and developers John Laing, were due to discuss it last week. When the long-awaited results will be made available remains unclear.

M&N said on Wednesday: "Further details on the exact date of the publication will be available soon."

Mr Goodfellow added: "I feel sure the consultation, if it is accurate, will show the public want modernisation of the existing civic complex to be properly considered."

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News

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FESTIVAL

Let's Go Crazy with Prince at Hop Farm

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

MULTI-MILLION selling rock star Prince has been confirmed as a headline performer for this year's Hop Farm Festival.

The Purple Rain star will play an extra third day at the Paddock Wood venue on Sunday, July 3.

It will be the American's only UK date this summer and his first show in the country since his record-breaking 21-night stint at the O2 Arena in London.

He will join Friday night headliners The Eagles and Saturday night bill topper Morrissey.

Organisers of the popular festival have added a third day to the previously announced two-day event to accommodate the star, who is playing a series of concerts across Europe, including headlining a festival in Poland 24-hours prior to the Kent show.

Existing ticket holders will be able to upgrade for £40 for the extra day, or £70 Sunday-only tickets will be available. Three-day festival passes will cost £170.

Details of the show leaked out last weekend, before being confirmed on Wednesday morning.

It represents a major coup for festival organiser Vince Power, who has worked with the star in the past and is keen to establish the festival as

a major event on the UK's musical calendar.

Mr Power said: "I am really excited about having Prince at the Hop Farm, we have worked hard to get the third day up and running and we hope that fans will appreciate the integrity of the bill and see it's one of the most musically exciting this year that stands head and shoulders above a lot of other festivals."

Prince shot to global fame in 1984 with this multi-million selling Purple Rain album and film. He followed that up with a string of hits including Kiss, Sign O The Times, U Got The Look and Alphabet Street.

He had a very public spat with record company Warner Bros and split from the company, daubing the word 'Slave' on his face and changing his name to a symbol.

But he has since changed his name back, and continues to release albums – two of his most recent, Planet Earth and 20Ten, were both given away free in innovative and lucrative deals with UK national newspapers.

He continues to dazzle audiences with hit-heavy shows, along with legendary 'aftershows' where he frequently performs at intimate venues in the early hours, and is currently performing another 21-night stint in Los Angeles as part of his Welcome 2 America tour.

Tickets for the Hop Farm Festival, including the Sunday night show, are available now.

FUNERAL

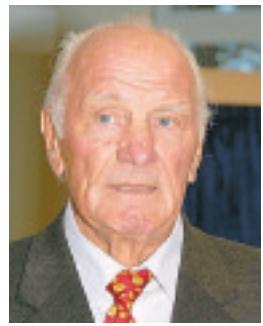
Boxer Sir Henry Cooper laid to rest

FRIENDS, family and fans bid a final farewell to heavyweight boxer Sir Henry Cooper as his funeral took place in Tonbridge on Wednesday.

The private service for the star, who lived for many years in Hildenborough, took place at the Corpus Christi Church.

Earlier in the day, the funeral cortège drove through Oxted in Surrey, where he had died while living with his son, for the public to pay their respects.

His son, Henry Marco said: "We have been overwhelmed by the obituaries and messages from all over the world. We are honoured that such kind things have been said. They are a huge support for the fam-



GOODBYE: Sir Henry Cooper

ily at this time."

Sir Henry died on Friday, May 1. He was 76.

Twice voted BBC Sports Personality of the Year – in 1967 and 1970 – he was made an OBE in 1969 and knighted in 2000 for services to charity and boxing.

He was best known for knocking Cassius Clay – who would later become Muhammad Ali – to the canvas during their heavyweight tussle at Wembley Stadium in 1963. Cooper would go on to lose the bout in highly controversial circumstances.

Upon hearing of his death, Ali said: "Sir Henry was a great fighter and a gentleman."

He lived in Hildenborough up until the death of his wife, Italian-born Albina, in 2008.



THE ONE: Music legend Prince is to headline an extra third day at the popular Hop Farm Festival

NEWS IN BRIEF

Join the diversity fun

A CELEBRATION of diversity event is being planned for Sherwood.

Residents' views and ideas are being sought for what is likely to be a fete-like day.

The aim is to promote, share and celebrate the various cultures and groups that live on the estate. A planning evening is being held at The Robin Hood pub next Thursday, May 26, at 6pm.

Everybody is welcome, for more information call Brendan McGowan 01892 523464.

Cat shot with air gun

A ONE-year-old tabby cat from Groombridge has had to be put to sleep after being shot with an air rifle.

Leo was shot on April 28 and despite being treated by the RSPCA and undergoing several operations, had to be put down on May 2.

Now owners are being urged to be vigilant.

Anyone with any information about air gun attacks on animals in the Groombridge area should call the RSPCA on 0300 123 0533.

Portraits go on display

THE Royal Tunbridge Wells Arts Society is set to hold an exhibition of portraits this week.

The society, which aims to promote an interest in the visual arts across the borough and stages regular workshops and educational events, will stage the show at 61 The Pantiles in the Lower Walk from next Saturday, May 28, to Monday, May 30.

For more details see www.rtwas.org.

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HOUSING

Have your say on housing targets and Core Strategy for new developments

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

PEOPLE in Tunbridge Wells are being given the chance to have their say on setting the borough's housing targets.

The council is seeking the views of residents on various issues including the use of Green Belt and Hawkhurst's designation as a town or village, as part of a review of its planning policy document, the Core Strategy.

Planning chiefs have suggested lowering the borough's previous housing target of 6,000 by 2026. That was set out in the previous government's regional spatial strategies, which have now been abolished.

The Conservative-led coalition has said that it wants to give local communities the opportunity to say how many new homes should be built and where. New planning laws are set out in the Localism Bill, which is currently being debated by MPs.

Jonathan MacDonald, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council's director of regeneration and sustainability, said: "We adopted the Core Strategy last year, but as a result of the decision to abolish



REVIEW: Residents have the chance to air their views on housing policy

the regionally imposed housing targets we've decided to review some of it.

"It is not the whole strategy we are asking residents to comment on – just specifics such as housing numbers, where they want them to be delivered and the density."

Among the issues up for debate is the Highgate area of Hawkhurst, which is currently labelled as a 'small rural town' in planning terms, which means it is open to more development than villages such as Pembury.

The council said it considers this defi-

nition and function "appropriate" and has asked residents what they think. However, the council warns that if Hawkhurst does not take its share of development this could be redistributed elsewhere.

Green Belt, which includes most of Tunbridge Wells and Southborough, is also included. The land itself, where it is harder to gain planning permission, could also be up for review dependent on the Government's policy on how much 'rural fringe' or long-term land reserve councils should have.

The council has also set out four options for house building targets. Under the former government's South East plan, Tunbridge Wells was required to build 6,000 new homes by 2026. However, the council thought this was too much and has provided suggestions about how the target could be lowered.

One option is that the housing needs of older people can be met in different ways and rather than building them one-bedroom homes, look at residential care or giving them the choice to stay in larger homes.

Figures show that of the 5,900 new homes needed in Tunbridge Wells by

2026, 5,500 will have a head of household aged over 65.

The council has asked for views on targets ranging from 5,000 to 6,000.

Mr MacDonald said: "The idea of the Localism Bill is that people get more involved in having a say about how many homes and where they are built. This is part of that, it is not statute yet, but we are trying to engage with local communities to find out what their views are."

The buildings industry has raised concerns that the bill could stunt development. But there are incentives such as the new homes bonus scheme where the Government match-funds additional council tax receipts for new homes for six years.

Other reforms such as 'sustainable projects' being given the automatic go-ahead and freeing up the planning system for developers, seem to clash with policies aimed at giving more power to local people.

Meanwhile, Tunbridge Wells council is holding three consultation events on its core strategy.

■ For more information and to take part in the consultation go to www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/csr.

PROPERTY

Forum advice for landlords

PRIVately rented property is used by some criminals as a cover for certain types of criminal activity – now landlords can find out what they can do to protect their property by attending the West Kent Landlords' Forum being hosted by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council on Monday May 23.

To book a place, contact sophie.marsh@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or call 01892 554241.

BURGLARY

Thieves make off with toys

CHILDREN'S toys and horse equipment have been stolen during a burglary at a property in Goudhurst.

Sheds and garages at the house in Station Road were broken into between 5am and 7am on Wednesday, May 11.

If you have any information call police on 01732 379 217 or Kent Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.



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CRIME

Spate of thefts target car parts

DETECTIVES have appealed for information after a spate of catalytic converter thefts.

Four cars have been targeted in broad daylight while in supermarket car parks around west Kent.

The latest catalytic converter theft, which was from a Peugeot 406, was on Wednesday, May 11, in the Sainsbury's in Otford Road, Sevenoaks, between 11.40am and 12.10pm.

Detective Sergeant Ben Turner said: "Thieves target catalytic converters because of their scrap metal value and certain types of vehicle, such as 4x4s, people carriers and vans, are higher off the ground and easier to get underneath."

"These thefts took place at busy locations in the day so I would like drivers to be aware and think carefully where they park their vehicles."

"If they see someone acting suspiciously near any vehicle at such a location I would ask them to call police immediately."

"It doesn't take long for a thief to remove a catalytic converter – it may be just a matter of minutes – so prompt information is key to catching the people responsible."

The Sainsbury's car park in Quarry Wood, Aylesford, has seen two catalytic converter thefts, one on Monday, May 9, from a Peugeot 806 between 12.10-12.30pm and the other on May 5. The second theft was from a Peugeot 406 between 12-12.30pm.

A Mitsubishi Shogun was also targeted at the Asda in London Road, Swanley, between 6am and 4pm on April 28.

FOOD AND DRINK

Thackeray's chef supports first Pantiles Food Festival

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

CELEBRITY chef Richard Phillips has told why supporting the first food festival on the Pantiles was a "no brainer".

The event launches on Friday, May 20, with a speech by the owner of Thackeray's and is followed by a weekend of live chef demonstrations and stalls showcasing local food and drink.

Mr Phillips, who has also put his name to a restaurant at Chapel Down vineyard near Tenterden, is patron of the festival for foodies.

"It is the 10th anniversary of my restaurant, Thackeray's, in Tunbridge Wells so it seemed fairly apt," he said. "I've been talking to Pantiles traders to see what they wanted to achieve, which was to bring in a good quality food festival. It is something I've always believed in supporting, which is local producers getting people to buy local produce and great fresh ingredients. Really it was a bit of a no brainer."

Mr Phillips worked with the Roux Brothers at Le Gavroche and Marco Pierre White before owning his own Michelin starred restaurant at just 29. He is not able to do any demonstrations at the festival due to other commitments, but will be around soaking up the atmosphere.

Asked if he was surprised the affluent town had not hosted a food festival before, he said: "It's a bit en vogue at the moment, local, seasonal produce. The fact we're in a recession has brought that to the forefront because it really makes people think about things being in season because it drives down the price."

"On the back of that people are looking at local suppliers more. There are lots of great farmers' markets in Kent, but not really any festivals."

"I hope it will bring people together in an outdoor environment. I am surprised it's never happened before, but better late than never."

Mr Phillips is hoping for a real festival feel to the event as people turn up to peruse the stalls buying and tasting local produce, enjoying some Kent wine, beer and cider with live music and jazz in the background.

The festival begins with a gourmet film screening of Babette's Feast at The Corn Exchange at 8pm on Friday.

A programme of talks and demonstrations will take place at Rhapsody House throughout Saturday and Sunday. The Georgian shopping parade will be packed with stalls selling food and drink and produce from across Kent and Sussex.

Mr Phillips also owns Hengist in Aylesford and has appeared on cooking shows including Saturday Kitchen and Ready Steady Cook.

See www.pantilestraders.co.uk for more details. Tickets for Friday's launch event cost £6 from Gardener & Cook and The Duke of York. Some may also be sold on the door.



SUPPORT: Celebrity chef Richard Phillips

BUSINESS

Community set to benefit from royal society network

PLANS have been unveiled to develop a new Tunbridge Wells network of a charity that promotes new ways of thinking about social progress.

The Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) was formed more than 250 years ago and has a 27,000-strong fellowship with a number of local networks.

"Whilst this can be driven by society fellows, it does not need to be exclusively for members and so the event will be open to local users of Twitter, who will have an interest in talks, an exchange of views on social issues and the development of local initiatives."

Former Tunbridge Wells district commander and high profile member of the town's Twitter community, Chief Inspector Martin Wilson, said: "A number of fellows have identified that there may be enough local interest in the Tunbridge Wells area to develop a new local RSA network for the town.

"A live screening of chief executive Matthew Taylor's annual lecture will be shown at the council chamber at 5.45pm, on Thursday, June 9, from RSA House, which is just off the Strand in central London.

He said the evening would bring together fellows to discuss how a local network could contribute to the community.

Mr Taylor's talk and the issues it raises will also be discussed at the event.

Ch Insp Wilson said the society's approach was multi-disciplinary, politically independent and combined cutting edge research and policy development with practical action.

The event involves people from a wide range of business backgrounds and it is hoped that after the first evening a regular meeting of local fellows can begin.

WORK

Construction company fined for safety failing

A CONSTRUCTION company has been ordered to pay out more than £5,700 for unsafe excavation work.

Churchill Properties, based in Westerham, was fined £2,800 and had to pay costs of £2,919 after an investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Subcontractors Moseley Green

Services, which is based in Hampshire, was ordered to pay the same amount.

The case, heard at Staines Magistrates Court, was brought after an HSE inspector found a significant risk of an excavation collapsing, or materials from the walls falling and injuring workers at a site in Leys Road Oxshott, Surrey.

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EXHIBITION

The final day of the art class will be the preparation for an exhibition held in Tunbridge Wells Town Centre later that day, featuring the work created over the three-and-a-half month part-time course.

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News

For more pictures and news go to www.kentnews.co.uk

IN BLOOM



GREEN FINGERS: MP plants first flower box

MP Clark digs the dirt to launch Bloom comp

TUNBRIDGE Wells MP Greg Clark took part in planting the first flower boxes as part of Tunbridge Wells' In Bloom competition entry.

Wooden planters in Victoria Place precinct were filled with flowers that will bloom into a brightly coloured display in time for judging day on July 15.

Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom will be taking part in the South and South East In Bloom competition, along with local rivals Sevenoaks.

It is among 17 independent campaigns that make up Britain in Bloom – Europe's largest horticultural campaign. Organisers in Tunbridge Wells have to hand in a portfolio by June 25.

As part of the local competition, Salomons will again be hosting and catering for the awards presentation on September 30. The schools awards presentation will take place at Trinity Arts Centre on September 21.

For more information visit the website www.royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk.

BEREAVEMENT

Let's talk about death, says NHS as campaign targets end-of-life care

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

THE NHS in west Kent has joined calls for people to talk openly about death, dying and bereavement.

A campaign as part of Dying Matters Awareness Week, which is running from Monday to Sunday, May 16-22, has highlighted that many people do not die where they want to.

Less than a third, 29 per cent, of people have discussed their wishes around dying and only four per cent have written them down. Around 70 per cent of people say they want to die at home, but around 60 per cent currently die in hospitals.

Dr Bruce Pollington, medical director at Heart of Kent Hospice in Aylesford, said: "Discussing the long-term effects of serious illness or a potential disability is never an easy conversation, but working through an advance care plan with your family, GP, community nurse, care home, hospital or hospice staff can give you the peace of mind that you will be in control of your own care, even in the event that you may become unable to make decisions yourself."

The package of care offered by NHS West Kent includes a 24-hour/seven-days-a-week crisis response support line and pharmacists across west

Kent that can provide access to palliative care drugs out-of-hours.

To help encourage discussions about death, an event was organised by the Maidstone End-of-Life Care Group on Wednesday at Oakwood House. The event brought together many of the health and social care providers who deliver end-of-life care in the area.

The event also introduced a new training programme, Thinking and Planning Ahead: Learning From Each Other, developed by Nottingham University, the National End-of-Life Care Programme and Dying Matters, which buddies people up with others who have already used some of the end-of-life care processes and tools providing personal help and support.

Jenny Thomas, lead director for end-of-life care at NHS West Kent, added: "This is an important opportunity to help raise awareness of the need to openly discuss dying, death and bereavement. Everyone deserves a good death, and this is more likely if we discuss it early on. Talking about dying and death is in everyone's interests as it can help ensure we get the care we want."

For more details on the NHS West Kent end-of-life package of care see the website at <http://tiny.cc/galvu>.



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NHS Trust

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On 26 May 2011, Kent Community Health NHS Trust will be holding their next public Board meeting.

Start time is 9:30am and finishing at 12:30pm.

Location: Boardroom 2, Preston Hall, Aylesford, ME20 7NJ

Copies of the Board Papers will be available on our website from 19 May 2011, please visit www.kentcht.nhs.uk.

For questions relating to the Board Meeting please contact Jill Mackenzie on 01233 667840 or email jill.mackenzie@eastcoastkent.nhs.uk

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THE LADIES: A group of nurses in the 1930s

HEALTH CARE

Archive shows history repeating

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

AS the super-modern new hospital at Pembury nears completion, a collection of fascinating images and documents dating back to 1828 will ensure the past is never forgotten.

Emergency planning officer John Weeks, who has turned into something of an expert of the history of Tunbridge Wells hospitals, was walking past a skip during the early days of demolition on the old hospital site when he spotted some glass photographic slides.

He discovered it was a complete set of colour prints taken of Pembury Hospital in the 1960s.

Even back then there were plans to build a new general hospital for the area and Mr Weeks realised he had stumbled across a complete record of the site as it was.

"I really thought that needed to be preserved," he said. "Then more and more stuff gradually appeared as we've cleared out shelves and cupboards. We have kept every record we can."

The near unbroken archive includes some 600 photographs and



RECOVERY: Soldiers injured during World War One enjoy some fresh air outside the hospital following treatment

countless documents, including patient records, memos of meetings, letters, correspondence, and admission tickets from before the days of the NHS when patients had to pay for treatment through health insurance, dating from the Victorian era to the present day.

Mr Weeks now has a treasure trove of interesting facts about both Pembury and the Kent & Sussex.

His collection, which is set to be

turned into a book charting the history of the hospitals, provides valuable insights into how healthcare has changed, as well as a nostalgic look back to days many will still remember. For example there is a consultant seen carving the turkey in a ward on Christmas day 1968 and nurses wearing their 1930s uniforms.

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, then the Duchess of York, opened the Kent & Sussex in 1934.

The town's hospital started as a dispensary in the Pantiles in 1828, it moved to where the Post Office

is now in 1842 and became the Tunbridge Wells infirmary treating inpatients. It expanded and the first children's ward opened in 1887. One of Mr Weeks' pictures shows injured soldiers from World War One outside the general hospital in 1918.

"Pembury had a crucial role during the evacuation of Dunkirk," Mr Weeks said. "All the registers state what the damage was, such as gun shot wounds and lots of burns from the oil that was on the water and burned their faces."

During World War One, the K&S

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as new hospital moves forward



CELEBRATIONS: A consultant carves the turkey for Christmas in 1968

was painted entirely in camouflage, it was bombed just once in 1940 killing a paper boy. An Ethiopian princess, Tsahai Selassie, the Emperor of Abyssinia's daughter, was evacuated to Tunbridge Wells and worked in the hospital as a student

nurse during the Second World War.

The new £230 million hospital at Pembury is considered to be of a state-of-the-art design to provide modern healthcare. But at one time the now outdated K&S was at



FIRST DAY: The then Duchess of York officially opens the hospital in 1934

the pinnacle of cutting edge hospital architecture.

Mr Weeks said: "In the 1930s there were huge advancements in building and design and technology. The surgical block was all about big windows and central heating. Designs that did not attract dust, whereas the old Victorian buildings at Pembury had much smaller windows, less natural light and beds closer together."

Interestingly, there have been plans to bring both hospitals together on one site since the NHS was formed in 1948, which have only now been realised. A familiar story of stretched finances and economic downturns have long played their part in preventing change.

"There have been eight attempts to design and construct a single site hospital for Tunbridge Wells between 1948 and 2005," Mr Weeks added.

"Sherwood Park was a favoured option in the 1970s, but there was always a financial crisis. In the 70s there were four attempts but the economic situation prevented capital investment in hospitals. Towards the end of the 80s when PFI (public finance initiative) was first brought in it was looked at again.

"There used to be two A&E departments that varied their days, medical services had to decide which was open according to speciality. It made sense to have only one hospital."



UPS AND DOWNS: The children's ward; waiting in A&E; and bomb damage during World War Two

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LAST LEG: Lung busting circuit of Hever Castle

TRIATHLON

Athletes tri hard at castle race

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

MORE than 250 triathletes took part in a race around the beautiful grounds of Hever Castle.

People with a range of experience from children and first-timers to elite competitors took part in the first of three events in the Evening Sprint Triathlon series.

The races are in aid of Help for Heroes and Talking2Minds and are running ahead of the main event – The Hever Castle Triathlon over the weekend of September 24 and 25.

Duncan Leslie, chief executive of the estate, which was the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, said: "The castle lends itself to a triathlon offer-

ing acres of beautiful grounds and a stunning lake setting. Families and individuals taking part in the race last year welcomed the opportunity to mix a sporting event with an enjoyable day out, and even learn a bit about history. We look forward to another exciting event this year."

The first in the evening sprint series was held last Wednesday, May 11, with three race distances including one for juniors and children.

All the triathletes started off with an open water swim in the 38-acre Hever Castle Lake, before a cycle around the 20km circuit through the High Weald of Kent, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, before finishing with a run around the estate and grounds before making the dash to the finish beside the lake.

Race director Brian Adcock added: "The stunning surroundings of Hever Castle on a spring evening were always going to attract a keen audience. The event was a great success being hailed as a novel and inspiring way to break up the week."

The next Evening Sprint Triathlon events are due to take place on Wednesday June 8 and Wednesday July 13. Registration is now open online and also accepted on the night.

More than 1,000 people have registered for the main triathlon. Hever Castle in Edenbridge is one of four weekend events which will take place over the course of the summer.

■ For more information, and online application, visit www.castletriathlonsseries.co.uk or call 01892 870 681.



DIRECTIONS: The triathletes are given a briefing on the Hever Castle course



CHILLY DIP: Youngsters get into the lake to start the junior race



TRANSITION: Triathletes emerge from the lake before embarking upon the 20km cycle ride

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OPINION

Sorry, I'm not into 'cheeky' fashion craze

JULIE MADDOCKS
VIEWPOINT...



OPENLY admit that I could never be described as 'trendy' (and to be honest, I don't think it's a title I've ever hankered after), but there's no doubt that style is incredibly important to many of us.

You only have to watch an episode of The Only Way is Essex to realise how essential it is to the 'stars' of the TV programme, and to them 'what you wear is who you are'.

So, unlike The Kinks, I may not be a great follower of fashion but I do, like most women, take an interest in what we are supposed to be wearing.

Interestingly, if you look up the word fashion in the dictionary the definition reads: "The current style or mode of dress, speech, conduct, or something, particularly a garment."

But there's no doubt that, as a whole, the subject of what we wear is all down to a matter of taste.

While I embrace the fact we're all different, (and am sure the world would be a very boring place if we were all the same), there's one recent fashion I really don't understand.

And it is this: Boys wearing their trousers pulled so far down, that you can not only see the waistband of their boxers, but the majority of their backsides too.

Please, oh please, could somebody explain to me this latest fad? I just don't get it – jeans worn around the buttocks rather than the waist.

So how brilliant was it to hear that the American Senate overwhelmingly approved the 'Pull Your Pants Up' bill.

According to the new ruling, teenagers in Florida are set to be banned by law from wearing low-slung jeans that reveal their underwear.

The measure prohibits students who have chosen to follow the trend. It has been decided that wearing clothing that "exposes their undergarments" or "indecently exposes their body parts" while they're at school is unacceptable.

Hallelujah. This has to be one of the most frustrating arguments we have had with our sons for a few years now, who in turn admit they have lost count of how many times they've been asked to pull up their trousers.

But they insist it's fashion and, of course, "I'm too old to understand" (which is possibly fair comment).

But, as I say 'surely the reason it's called 'underwear' is for that very reason – it should be worn under our clothes and shouldn't be seen'.

Honestly though, I have tried – certainly in the past – to feel 'en vogue' particularly in my youth; such a shame I grew up in the 1970s, a time when such dreadful items as platform shoes, mini-skirts, leggings, wedged heeled sandals and kohl eyeliner were all the rage.

But hang on – isn't that the exactly what the 'youth' of 2011 is wearing (and I'm not just talking about the boys).

Good job then I've saved those outfits in my wardrobe – I knew they'd come round again – it appears I could be at the height of fashion now, thanks to my 30-year-old outfits.

Who'd have thought that Abba jumpsuit would be all the rage now – no accounting for taste!

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News

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ARRR: Capt Jack Sparrow, aka Simon Newton, welcomed visitors on board

ENTERTAINMENT

Go hunting for treasure on the golden galleon

YOUNGSTERS got the chance to be pirates for the day at the Hop Farm's swashbuckling new attraction.

Captain Jack Sparrow impersonator Simon Newton and his blue and gold parrot, Casper, welcomed families to the official opening of Pirate Cove last Saturday.

The latest attraction at the Paddock Wood entertainment park features a 40ft golden galleon ship

to explore, along with panning for gold and precious gems.

At the opening, shipmate Amanda Richardson kept the children entertained with balloon modelling and seafarers' sing-a-longs.

The opening coincides with the latest big screen outing for the real Jack Sparrow, played by Johnny Depp, who returns in Pirates of the Caribbean 4, this weekend.

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Photograph by Garry Camera Press London

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EDUCATION

Deep South visit helps students tune in to a very different world

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

YOUNGSTERS from K College were in for a real eye-opener during the trip of a lifetime to New Orleans as part of their studies.

The students, all studying popular music at the further education college, were on the trip to learn about the birthplace of much of today's modern music.

But after a session teaching young children music at a church after-school club, they found a chilling reminder of the gulf between their west Kent home and the US city.

A 'murder board' at the church listed everyone killed in that district in the past five years, what age they were, and how they had died.

Learner manager of music, Julie Parker, said: "Many cultural bridges were crossed. The students did not know what to expect as they had very little experience of working with people from different cultures. They found the most lively, musically talented group of youngsters they could have possibly wished to meet.

"Then for them to see the murder board – which lists the name, age, and how a person died i.e. bludgeoned, children as young as two beaten to death, shootings, stabbings, suicide... that really brought home the situation."

Students had to pay just £300 each for the trip, with the rest paid for by fundraising events and course fees.

Mrs Parker added: "It was a unique work experience for the students and they absolutely loved it – so did the children they were teaching."

Thirteen students, aged between 20 and 30, all on the year two foundation degree in popular music course took part in the trip. Staff hope this will be the

first of an annual field trip to the US.

Mrs Parker, along with fellow teacher James Sedge, toured the Deep South two years ago, exploring Memphis, Mississippi and New Orleans, to investigate musical style and culture.

Mrs Parker said: "We were inspired, and decided whilst in New Orleans that our students would really benefit from such an experience. We resolved to organise a student field trip. We then went back last year to find out what we could do and what accommodation we could get, and this year we made it happen."

The trip is built into the curriculum. Students spent this year studying genres that originate in New Orleans – such as funk, rhythm and blues, jazz, zydeco, hip hop and Cajun traditional music.

They studied the history whilst performing related material and learning specific techniques. The performance and contextual aspects of the trip contribute towards two course modules.

The tutor added: "We used door takings from concerts, together with a contribution from course fees, and we also gained some funding by running a course called Project Music Maker. The students could never have afforded to go without a joint effort to raise this money. This was a test to see if it would work. It was a raving success and I now hope it can happen every year."

The music workshop at St Anna's Episcopal Church was organised through Julie Parker's relationship with the famous jazz singer, Lillian Boutte.

She said: "We know her because she worked with one of the K College music staff, Richard Simmons.

"She was born in New Orleans and is a musical ambassador for her home city. She now lives in Germany but sings New Orleans jazz and promotes the culture across the world."



SHOCKING: Part of the murder board

"She's trying to encourage tourism back to New Orleans to regenerate the economy. She's closely involved with the church, and suggested we contact Darryl Durham about his after-school children's project."

Children aged six to 14 attend the church after school every day and participate in an arts-based programme, in which Darryl Durham invites visiting professionals to work with them on activities which encourage positive outlooks in life, positive role models, and team work.

Mrs Parker added: "Lillian asked me if we could be part of the programme. So we turned up with our instruments and taught them how to play the New Orleans traditional song Iko, Iko along with clapping and rhythm games."

They also spent a morning at Tulane University, where they listened to a lecture on modern jazz.

The foundation degree in popular music is accredited by University of Kent, and has run at K College since 2007.



LEARNING TOGETHER: The K College students attended a music workshop with youngsters at St Anna's Episcopal Church

COMPETITION

Win tickets to see Jekyll & Hyde starring Marti Pellow



SINGING sensation Marti Pellow comes to Tunbridge Wells later this month for a string of shows in the national tour of smash-hit Broadway musical Jekyll and Hyde.

The former Wet Wet Wet frontman, who has sold millions of records across the world, has developed an enviable reputation in the West End, on Broadway and on tour, with the likes of Chicago and The Witches of Eastwick.

He also co-starred with Josh Groban in the TV and film special, *Chess in Concert*, and most recently gained personal accolades for his performance on BBC Radio 2's *Elvis Forever* concert.

Glamorous, sexy and deliciously wicked in equal measures, *Jekyll and Hyde* is based on Robert Louis Stevenson's classic gothic novella, and has proved a huge hit with audiences on both sides of the Atlantic. And it rolls into the Assembly Hall Theatre from May 30 to June 4.

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In *Jekyll and Hyde*, Pellow stars as the scientist whose ego wreaks havoc

across Victorian London in a dark tale of love, redemption and the seductive power of evil.

Written by Frank Wildhorn with book and lyrics by the Academy Award-winning composer Leslie Bricusse, it has proved a huge smash.

To be in with a chance to win one of the five pairs of tickets up for grabs, simply answer the following question and text in your answer.

Question: Marti Pellow was the singer for which band?

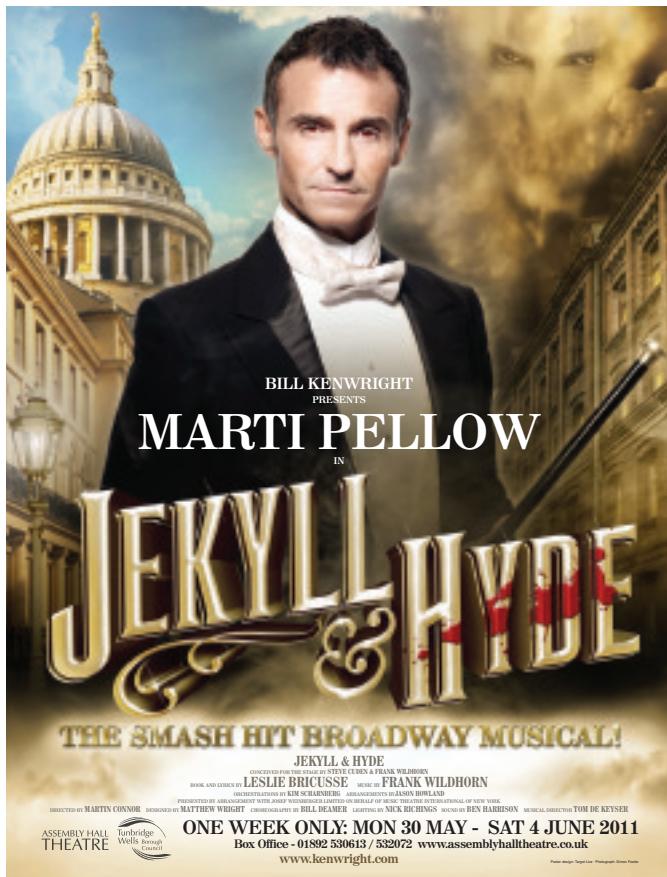
- A) Wet Wet Wet
- B) UB40
- C) Duran Duran

To enter, text HYDE (then a space), your answer, name and address and send it to 64343.

Texts cost £1 plus standard network rates. Closing date is May 31, 2011.

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CLASSY lady, slim, pretty, young looking graduate, mixed race 38, London, seeking a sugar daddy to spoil and pamper me. Discretion required. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367031

ELIZABETH sexy, loving, kind, caring, seeks older gent, 78 plus for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366603

VERY cute, slim, black professional female, 36, looking for love! If you are honest, passionate, caring and spontaneous, ring me. Any race. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366725

GREEN eyed blonde in need of love and attention seeks youthful, trendy experienced guy to enjoy good times. Any age/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366723

ATTRACTIVE young hearted female, fed up with being alone, so if you feel the same, give me a call. lets get together. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366721

TALL busty blue eyed 30's female, brown hair, lots of interests, discreet, seeks male for no strings, good times. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366705

ATTRACTIVE and any man's dream seeks, outgoing, professional male for intimate evenings in and fun nights out. Can accommodate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366703

CUTE very curly young girl, 18, WLTM romantic guy for lots of fun and loving. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366699

LORRAINE seeks trustworthy white male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367393

DONNA 35, single mum of 3, seeks male with GSOH, 35-40. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385664

MAIDSTONE lady, pretty, petite, late 50's, honest, caring, N/S, loves life and most things, seeks nice guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366501

SUSIE 5ft 7ins, blonde, seeks educated attractive male for loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385476

34YR old blonde new to the area, seeking younger guy for fun times maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365079

FUN loving curly red head 32yrs, loves good food/wine. WLTM male who appreciates a real woman and knows what he likes. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365077

30YR old Brunette fit, feminine, attractive, free, single and looking for love with similar fun loving guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365075

36YR old bored housewife looking for mutual companion ship with discreet understanding man stuck in a similar rut. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364331

LORNA 66, nurse, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365501

FEMALE 64, brown/grey hair, medium build, honest, caring, loving, seeks similar in male, 30-60 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364253

LOOKING for my soul mate, 57, lonely, caring, affectionate, likes a drink in good company, 5ft 1ins, hazel eyes, seeks someone to share life with, is that you? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385172

BARBARA 46, seeks nice, stocky male up to 50 for friend ship, maybe more. Heathrow. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363331

MALE Guardian reader? Art, vivacious female, 61, happy in own skin, seeks N/S sociable, warm, loving man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360955

GLASS half full N/S mid 50's woman, seeks other half. Are you a professional man, 50-60 who likes the finer things in life? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363969

LORRAINE seeks trustworthy white male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367393

DONNA 35, single mum of 3, seeks male with GSOH, 35-40. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385664

MAIDSTONE half well educated 60's female, seeks similar gent to enjoy the simple things of life. Wanted professional, attractive male, 38-58, medium build, 5ft 9ins. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366525

64YR old female, 5ft 5ins, GSOH, likes golf, seeks male with GSOH for friendship, days out, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339581

MAIDSTONE lady, pretty, petite, late 50's, honest, caring, N/S, loves life and most things, seeks nice guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360477

49YR old lady, honest, sincere, easygoing, likes a laugh, looking for love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366059

HAZEL blonde, 62, pretty, cutesy, likes N/S, non drinker, seeks genuine, attractive male, 55-65 for fun and friendship. Ramsgate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366319

48YR old female, 5ft 3ins, medium build, likes animals, nights in/out, holidays, coast, seeks male, 48-50, preferably a smoker for LTR. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365955

INDEPENDENT 52yr old slim, N/S female, likes country walks, swimming, animals, meals/days out, seeks N/S similar aged male for friend ship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347305

42YR old female, likes music, dancing, writing, astrology, cats, seeks male with GSOH and similar age. Medway. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351577

CARING young 62 petite blonde, seeks someone to share doing things with, the ate, dancing and perhaps nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365861

ACADEMIC man sought by female, recent graduate, into art, history, psychology, likes usual activities as well as London art galleries and walks. Brimley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365501

ATTRACTIVE confident, lady, 37, independent, HIV Positive, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363415

LOOKING for my soul mate, 57, lonely, caring, affectionate, likes a drink in good company, 5ft 1ins, hazel eyes, seeks someone to share life with, is that you? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362659

SALLY petite, confident lady, happy go lucky, likes dancing, walks, TV, seeks male/soul mate for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362665

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 384852

SUZANNE 35, beautiful blonde, seeks male for chats and a relaxing glass of wine anytime. ACA, status unimportant. City area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342527

Pretty woman, slim, black, widow, 39, energetic, seeks white, solvent male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360965

GORGEOUS lonely lass, 45, looking for some romantic liaisons with younger male, looks important, no chancers. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364415

MARY 60, good for age, GSOH, likes cooking, meals out, looking for some fun company, possible romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364357

TINKERBELL seeks Peter Pan, I'm 36, 5ft 3ins, size 8-10 and am looking for a tall strong man who can connect and make me laugh. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358721

ATTRACTION warm, blonde female, European, 49, seeks honest, generous male, 50 plus who will take care of me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 345487

LADY seeks N/S, clean shaved male who appreciates artistic, romantic, feisty, attractive, slim, misch, curvy lady of 69 who has not yet joined the wrinkles. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349575

FEMALE seeks kind, caring white male, 42-50, tidy and clean for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363197

ELIZABETH caring, honest, reliable, likes most things, seeks older gent, late 70's for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346319

NATALIA attractive, blonde, brown eyes, 40's, N/S, slim, fit, friendly, seeks sincere N/S, solvent male for love and relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344393

SLIM attractive, elegant female, likes travel, restaurants, cinema, seeks caring, male, 45-55 for friendship, possibly relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361571

SALLY independent, intelligent, confident, caring female, seeking a similar soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361575

UNIQUE attractive black female, 37, slim, enjoys music, reading, theatre etc, WLTM genuine gent, 37-49 to share laughter and life, caring, N/S who lives near London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380918

LISA 42, medium build, likes cooking, walks, music, days in/out, WLTM caring, down to earth male, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332817

ANNE 61, 5ft 3ins, medium build, blue eyes, blonde hair, seeks honest male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361243

OUTGOING sincere 5ft 6ins lady WLTM tall, caring interesting male 70's to share life adventure. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 357959

57YR old lady, works, divorced, likes beach, meals out, theatre, travel, weekends away, seeks white male, 56-61 with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359685

YOUNG 54yr old female, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest, caring guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362207

FEMALE 27, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342715

PATRICIA outgoing, confident, feminine, warm, friendly, smart, good company, attractive, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347215

ATTRACTIVE black lady, 5ft 6ins, black hair, slim, kissable lips, likes walks, horse riding, go karts, seeks professional white male, 35-45, athletic, 5ft 11ins. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353897

BLACK female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male, 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356991

SOUTH London Lady, full figure with long hair, curves in all the right places. WLTM male of any age for fun, friendship and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356989

HONEST caring, genuine female, 44, GSOH, likes meals out, nights in, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361844

PETITE female, slim, attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, GSOH, romantic, likes sports, nights out, meals, seeks honest, genuine, N/S male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334613

SINGLE mum, 39, likes most things, seeks male with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349999

FIT lady, 65, thinks she's 40, N/S, loves life, seeks genuine gent, 60-70 N/S for happy loving, exciting times. Gravesend. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353111

OLD fashioned girl, 49, fun, friendly, seeks mature male for fun, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382192

GENUINE loving female, 40, seeks loving male, 40-50 for friendship and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 345487

LADY seeks N/S, clean shaved male who appreciates artistic, romantic, feisty, attractive, slim, misch, curvy lady of 69 who has not yet joined the wrinkles. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349575

ATTRACTIVE slim single mum, 44, seeks similar tall male, 40-50, caring, loving and loyal, are you? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334393

SARAH 37, caring, kind, seeks fun, caring guy, 37-49. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346319

NATALIA attractive, blonde, brown eyes, 40's, N/S, slim, fit, friendly, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363693

CHRIS 57, GSOH, down to earth, likes cooking, boot fairs, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363693

44YR old male, blond hair, blue eyes, average build, likes nights out, karaoke, walks, cinema, seeks female for fun, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341125

TERRY 38, 5ft 7ins, 11st, seeks Asian/black female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385772

LISA 42, medium build, likes cooking, walks, music, days in/out, WLTM caring, down to earth male, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366867

DEL 55, 5ft 5ins, seeks attractive black female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Must be a lover of life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366867

SLIM good looking male, likes most things, seeks female for friendship and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366631

JAMES 64, retired, fit, grey hair, 14st, likes CD, passive, male, 40-70, dominant for fun times. Dartford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367057

MALE 34, attractive, 5ft 10ins, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks slim male for fun relationship. Any area, can travel. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 311892

FEMININE lady who knows how to treat her man seeks strong minded male to care for, any area London/Surrey/Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356985

52YR old female, likes walks, animals, theatre, cinema, seeks male for companion ship/LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 357291

LATE 20's female seeking older male. Call to hear exactly what I'm like and looking for. I can meet anywhere in London at any time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356983

TALL slim blonde, just 21yrs seeks interesting older male who knows what's what, show me the ways of the world. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356983

BUBBLY outgoing nurse, (I love my uniform), fancy meeting up North London for some fun loving fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356983

3 8 YR old male, medium build, dark hair, blue eyes, seeking special female to take care of and have good times with. Tunbridge Wells. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385620

PROFESSIONAL male, 42, OHAC, independent, likes good things in life, sees warm, sincere female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385616

FUN loving male, 42, professional, OHAC, likes good things in life, sees warm, sincere female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386075

ATTRACTIVE lady, curly and fun, looking for an uncomplicated fun only relationship, after work etc, any area London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356991

CLARE 5ft 10ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, likes most things, seeks male for friend ship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381013

ATTRACTIVE caring, interesting black lady, seeks professional white for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358937

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RICHARD dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, clean shaved male, seeks female for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366795

ANDREW 59 seeks similar aged female for LTR. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366783

GRAHAM 45, 5ft 8ins, blond hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, likes holidays, cooking, music, sports, nights out, holidays, seeking female for friend ship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 357211

TALL attractive male, 5ft 8ins, likes holidays, cooking, music, sees female for friend ship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366635

PHIL medium build, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, likes holidays, cooking, music, sees female for friend ship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366625

TALL slim, lonely 53yr old guy, seeks female for loving, tender relationship, age/looks unimportant. Surrey. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366941

IAN young, free, single, 41, likes football, fishing, motor racing, sees young lady to bring a sparkle back into life, 35-40. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366863

JAMES 64, retired, fit, grey hair, 14st, likes CD, passive, male, 40-70, dominant for fun times. Dartford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366631

GYM buddy. Late 40's male, chubby, fit, looking for someone non scene, 35-50 with GSOH to do the gym. Chertsey. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364872

SOLVENT gay male, 61, likes travel, history, seeks gent, 48-62. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364843

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EVENT

Second Sound&Light event promises to be a musical and visual extravaganza

By Jenna Pudelek
jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

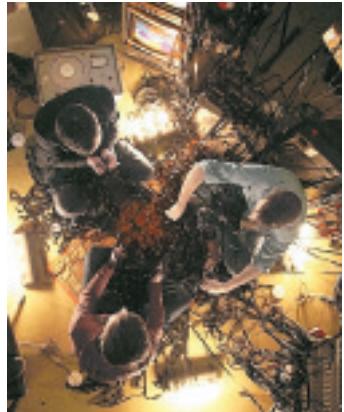
ELECTRONIC music and visual art are coming together for an exciting new show at the Trinity Arts Centre.

The second Sound&Light outing, which are collaborative, multimedia events where different art forms merge in one performance, will feature local bands, an installation artist and film-maker.

David Travillion, whose band Stirling Hayden are headlining the June 2 event, brought together friends and artists he knows for the show.

"I just wanted to do something that people would find exciting," he said. "I go to so many rock shows to watch bands and that's always fun, but it's nice to do something different."

"The Trinity is such a cool space and it was great to get the chance to do stuff in the gallery and use the cinema screen."



WATCH THIS SPACE: London band Get People (left) and Jeffery Kino, aka Klaus Says Buy The Record

"It was a good chance to do something a little bit different that people around here might not have seen before."

The musician will be making the most of the space at the arts centre in Tunbridge Wells with

an installation in the gallery, DJs in the foyer and bands in the auditorium with VJs projecting visuals onto the cinema screen.

Playing first is Jeffrey Kino a local electronic artist, who is



“699

The Trinity is such a cool space and it was great to get the chance to do stuff in the gallery and use the cinema screen

DAVID TRAVILLION,
ORGANISER OF SOUND&LIGHT

"All the bands have a bit of a leaning towards using live visuals and there will be VJs doing stuff on the big cinema screen."

"In the gallery space there is going to be a big installation by Joseph McElroy, which is going to be a big noisy thing."

"He's exhibited in Berlin and Seattle so we're lucky to have him."

The show, which starts at 8pm, will begin with a short film by the Glasgow-based artist Katherine Gallagher.

Finally, an ensemble that has brought together 10 different musicians from local bands will perform a reinterpretation of a piece by Steve Reich, the innovative minimalist composer.

Sound&Light's first event saw Sundance Film Festival winning composer Dustin O'Halloran perform to Christianna Vantzou's visuals.

For tickets, which cost £10, call the Trinity box office on 01892 678 678.

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OPINION

Have faith in young rebels

Dr Masi Noor, senior lecturer in psychology at Canterbury Christ Church University, says youth has played a big role in Middle Eastern uprisings

THE uprisings across the Middle Eastern countries have had many surprising elements, many of which have been amply analyzed by the media and social commentators.

What has been absent from these analyses, however, is the role of powerful psycho-cultural norms in making it much harder for the young protesters across the region to go out on the streets and rebel.

In particular, their ability to defy some of the norms that are embedded within countries in which Islam is the predominant source of moral influence has been rather impressive for me, both personally as an Afghan and professionally as a social psychologist.

The culture of respect for the elderly and people in authority across the Middle East has played a key role in the autocratic rulers securing social compliance to their regimes.

Typically, such compliance

is achieved through the potent route of emotions, in particular through inducing the powerful emotion of shame.

The constant reference to Egyptians as 'children' by Mubarak during the uprising in Egypt was more than a benign gesture of care and concern.

In fact, an official spokesman of the Mubarak government once asked the parents of these protesting 'children' to call them home.

When a BBC journalist confronted the spokesman by reminding him of the fact that the parents were also on the streets standing in protest next to their children, the indignant official replied that he would call on their grandparents to call them all home.

As if not hard enough, the young protesters must have had to fight off the emotional pressures against their engagement in the protests exerted by their own families, at least

at the initial stages of the protests.

Faced with the uncertainties of whether their young ones will bring about liberation or death onto themselves, naturally most families are likely to object to their children's participation in such risky activities.

Given the central place and power of the family in Islamic societies, it is thus even more impressive how the young protesters have managed to rise against the psychological double-challenge of authority and family.

It is then all the more regrettable to dent the uprisings across the Middle East by linking them to regional and international fundamentalist movements, such as Al-Qaeda, the Muslim Brotherhood and the likes.

Such conspiracy theories are used by the regional oppressive regimes as effective propaganda, but are also entertained

by some fearful observers in the West. The former is understandable, while the latter is unreasonable.

Of course, severe regional and international ramifications can be expected were the radical wing of the Muslim Brotherhood to become the new ruling party in Egypt.

However, considering the psychological and cultural hurdles, let alone the fear of death the young protesters have had to overcome before going out on the streets, our pessimistic prognosis seems more than misplaced.

Have confidence in their creativity to choose the right direction for themselves. Above all, give them a breathing break after all this hard work.

■ **Dr Masi Noor** is a senior lecturer in social psychology at Canterbury Christ Church University, and specialises in understanding conflict in divided societies.



6699

**Impressive
young
Islamic
protestors
had to rise
against the
double
challenge
of authority
and family**

KOS COMMENT

Why local food and drink needs support

IN these difficult times, seeking out the best quality items at the best possible prices becomes more important than ever.

And there is, perhaps, no better example than with food and drink. Buying in-season produce, grown and produced locally, means the prices are kept down and every pound you spend goes back into the local economy. So celebrate it this weekend – starting with a trip to the Pantiles Food Festival.

Regal treat for music fans at Hop Farm

HATS should be doffed in the direction of Vince Power - organiser of this summer's Hop Farm Festival after it was confirmed this week that legendary star Prince will be added to the line-up.

Over the course of the last few years he has ensured the festival's reputation grows and with it Kent's status as a venue for top global entertainment. Here's hoping the rain doesn't return for what should be a memorable weekend.

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What is EU's big attraction?

BEING in a political unit [United Kingdom] as part of the European Union is totally different from acknowledging the fact we are a physical part of the Continent of Europe.

However, Mr L Long (letters last week) reminds us "we belong to Europe". He then suggests that we "benefit in many ways".

Often, when a Europhile is asked to state the benefits of belonging to this forced marriage, the conversation gets rather vague.

It may be well to note that from 1973 to 2010, Britain paid total accumulated contributions to the European Union budget of £257,648 billion gross or £77,851bn net.

If Britain benefits from its membership to this staggeringly expensive club, let those who advocate it prove it – by conducting an independent cost-benefit analysis. Governments have been challenged to do so. So far silence reigns.

Also, it might be wise to note that Rotherham is not filled

with 'rabid' anti-EU voters.

Perhaps they are aware of the stringent cuts being applied and recognise the financial haemorrhage being inflicted upon us.

Noting the general flow of where it goes and wondering for what benefits?

June Moore, Rotherham

Cadets salute public support

THE Southborough Family Fun Day has been a part of the Southborough community calendar for the past 18 years and was, in the past, organised by Age Concern, Southborough.

In 2009, Age Concern Southborough indicated that, due to the closure of the Southborough office, they would no longer be in a position to organise the event.

Rather than see the event cancelled, the Tunbridge Wells Sea Cadets offered to take over the management of the event, so this is now the second year we have organised it.

This year's event was opened by the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells, Cllr David Jukes.

Displays in the arena included a band display by the award-winning Tunbridge Wells Sea Cadet Band, a police dog display by the Kent Police dog section, vintage and classic car displays with the highlight being a simulated 'attack' during a patrol by the Royal Marine Cadets from TS Brilliant, the Royal Marine Cadet Detachment of the Tunbridge Wells Sea Cadets.

The Tunbridge Wells Sea Cadets would like to thank the public for their support at the event and for the very positive feedback that has been received, and look forward to making next year's event even bigger and better.

**Stephen Broomberry,
Parents & Friends
Association Tunbridge
Wells Sea Cadet Corps
(TS Brilliant)**

Police need a taxing debate

KENT Green Party supports Kent Police in opposing the 1,500 job cuts they face in the county.

We agree this cannot be achieved without reductions

in service, meaning more crime is likely.

Some would argue that reduced overall crime figures justify cuts in police staffing.

However, there are a number of areas of crime which continue to increase. The police need specialist units to deal with trafficking, a form of crime which has never attracted the policing needed.

Police should be involved in investigating and apprehending enterprise owners paying below the minimum wage. Existing police units dealing with domestic violence and rape should be expanded.

It is also an unfortunate fact that increasing drinking is associated with a rise in violent crime, including in the home.

Is this all affordable? Yes, if the Government employs enough tax collectors.

More than 30,000 tax collectors have been cut already and 15,000 more HM Revenue and Customs jobs are planned to go. HMRC admits it failed to collect £4.2bn in taxes due in the year to April 2010.

The main reason was lack of staff. We can reduce the deficit and maintain essential services provided the Govern-

ment commits itself to collect taxes on time and creates a fair taxation system.

**Stuart Jeffery,
chair of Kent Green Party**

Time powers took A21 note

THE issues raised in your article last week on the mounting death toll on the A21 should be enough to make the Government sit up and take notice.

That portion of the road, which is being touted for dualising, has long been a major problem area both in terms of being dangerous and for the horrendous traffic jams which occur there on an almost daily basis.

If Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge, and indeed the rest of west Kent, want to be able to grow and become a more effective hub for business and retailers then surely ensuring the access roads to and from both are essential?

At the moment it fails the community every way you look at it.

Taking the lives of people is the extreme, but as we see

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every month, this continues to happen.

When an ambulance en route to the new hospital is stuck in the traffic or worse, then perhaps someone will sit up and take notice.

Terry Smith, Tonbridge

Value life over the cutbacks

THE A21 is a death-trap. We all know that. So how can anyone not justify improving it?

Just how many lives have to be lost before the Government agrees it is too high a cost?

Human life is simply too valuable to lose because of cutbacks.

Name and address supplied

Our 'Enry was a true legend

I WOULD just like to pay a rather belated tribute to Sir Henry Cooper.

He was one of Britain's finest sportsmen that has ever lived, and no amount of tributes can truly recognise his talents and his ability to entertain.

Not only was he a fantastic boxer, but he went on to become an amusing guest on many a TV show, all the while working tirelessly to raise money for charity.

We have lost a true legend.

K King, Sevenoaks

Be that 'one in a million'

I'D LIKE to thank the people of Kent for the generosity they showed during Red Cross Week (May 1-8) this year.

All over the country people volunteered to fundraise by shaking collection buckets, taking on sponsored challenges or holding fun events – all in the hope of raising £1 million for British Red Cross.

Everyone who fundraised or donated is truly 'one in a million', and has contributed to the charity's lifesaving work, both overseas and in the local community.

This year the British Red Cross is aiming to raise more funds than ever before and reach a total of £1 million. It's not too late to donate – you can still contribute at www.redcross.org.uk/redcrossweek.

**Konnie Huq,
broadcaster and British
Red Cross supporter**

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- Turkey - Istanbul
- Sicily - Messina



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Escorted Rail-Cruise - afternoon departure from London
10 days, all inclusive
Quote GS10-KOS
From £1,199pp

Departs: October 7, 2011

This Rail-Cruise takes in the best of the Eastern Mediterranean, including Corfu and Saranda in Albania. After a Champagne check-in we travel by train to Marseilles (optional luggage handling available) to join the Louis Orient Queen for an 8-night cruise with all

meals and drinks included.

CRUISE PORTS OF CALL:

- Embark France - Marseilles
- Sicily - Messina
- Albania - Saranda
- Greece - Katakolon, Corfu & Corinthos (Corinth Canal)
- Italy - Genoa
- Disembark Marseilles

ITINERARY/INCLUDED:

- Champagne Check-in
- Escorted throughout
- Afternoon departure on Eurostar to Paris
- 1 night hotel B&B in Paris
- Return rail travel to Marseilles
- 8-night All-Inclusive cruise on the Orient Queen
- All transfers abroad

*Excludes gratuities & excursions



Menton Lemon Festival & Nice Carnival

Escorted holiday by rail - afternoon departure from London
8 Days, semi-all-inclusive
Quote FL2-KOS
£849pp

Departs February 22, 2012

This super holiday takes in the French Riviera's premiere Carnivals and Monaco. On the Riviera enjoy Free Drinks every night.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Champagne Check-in
- Escorted throughout
- Eurostar to Paris
- 1 night hotel B&B in Paris
- Return rail travel: London-Nice-London
- 6 buffet breakfasts & 6 dinners with wine, water & tea/coffee AND nightly Free bar 6pm to 11pm
- 6 nights in Diano Marina at a 3-star hotel
- Included visits to Menton Lemon Festival & Nice Carnival parades plus Monaco & San Remo
- All transfers abroad

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Escorted holiday by rail - afternoon departure from London
8 days, semi-all-inclusive
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From £799pp

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Join us for a superb holiday that takes in the best of the Italian Riviera of Flowers and the French

Côte D'Azur. Experience fast train travel from London to the south of France and a touring itinerary which takes in the best of the Mediterranean coast.

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- Included visits to Monaco, Portofino, Eze & San Remo
- Return rail travel to London
- All transfers abroad



Lake Bled, Slovenia, Croatia & Venice

Escorted holiday by rail - afternoon departure from London
15 days, half board
Quote SV9-KOS
£1,499pp

Departs September 28, 2011

Experience the delights of the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana, the stunning beauty of Lake Bled, the Croatian seaside town of Rovinj, magnificent Venice & more. We

travel on the swift Eurostar, London to Paris, then overnight train to Venice in a private cabin.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Champagne check-in
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Grease & Saturday Night Fever Xmas Party

Warner Bembridge Coast Hotel, Isle of Wight - Over 40s only
Self drive, 3 nights
drinks inclusive
Quote MX11-KOS
£279pp Sale £259pp
£10pp deposit

Friday, Nov 25 to 28, 2011
Join us for a Christmas party with a super 1970s theme. Our party includes a screening of the movie Grease, a Bee Gees Tribute act and Free Drinks every day.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- FREE drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday, 12noon to 11pm Sat & Sun
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- Entertainment includes movie screening of Grease and Bee Gees Tribute act
- En-suite bedroom - upgrades available
- Indoor pool & sauna
- Return Car Ferry



Carry on New Year Party

Warner Bembridge Coast Hotel, Isle of Wight - Over 40s only
Self drive, 3 nights,
drinks inclusive
Quote BC1-KOS
£239pp
£10pp deposit

Friday, Jan 13 to 16, 2012
Join us for a party that extends the New Year festivities. Our weekend break includes a gala New Year's Eve party and Free Drinks every day.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Free drinks from 3.30pm to 11pm on Friday; 12noon to 11pm Sat & Sun - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers
- Full entertainment programme
- En-suite bedroom
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- Indoor pool & sauna
- Return car ferry



INSIDE THIS WEEK

MAYOR of London Boris Johnson has championed entrepreneurship by launching a series of Business Bootcamps. Mr Johnson hopes 1,000 youngsters will benefit from the scheme, which will see 27 workshops run across a range of sectors including digital and mobile technology, fashion and bio-tech industries. The scheme has been supported by the Royal Bank of Scotland.

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Business Week

Your business is our business

Think tank's call to tax the big boys of grocery shopping

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

MAJOR supermarkets should be taxed to subsidise traditional high street shops, according to an influential think tank.

Tax recouped from out-of-town stores should then be used to reduce business rates on small retailers in a bid to bring a greater degree of balance to the UK economy.

The controversial plan to give councils new tax-raising powers is being proposed by the ResPublica think tank whose founder and director, Philip Blond, has close links to Prime Minister David Cameron.

The report – Right to Retail: Can Localism Save Britain's Small Retailers? – argues that Government must do more to rebalance the retail economy away from the "big four" supermarkets, which control nearly 80 per cent of the country's £150bn grocery market.

"Britain every year is less and less a nation of shopkeepers – assets and ownership are concentrating, finance has become the preserve of the City of London and high streets have converged as though by centralised design.

"The UK's 8,151 supermarket outlets today account for 97 per cent of total grocery sales, and 76 per cent of groceries are sold by just the four biggest retailers," the report says

"When we talk about rebalancing the economy, what we are really talking about is shifting back the focus of ownership and economic control to the communities."

Blond, whose ideas have influenced the prime minister's vision of the Big Society, said: "For too long government has viewed big as beautiful when it comes to retail competition.

"That position is unsustainable and we need radical thinking to bring about true competition.

"The number of traditional grocery stores has been declining over many years.

"In 1950 there were around 90,000 butchers and greengrocers. By 2000, this figure had plummeted to fewer than 20,000."

Levies on large retailers are already being discussed in Scotland where the plan has been proposed by the government.

Sainsbury's reaction was to warn that the tax would slow down growth in the country, where the supermarket chain has plans to expand.

Blond added: "The rise of the vast supermarkets with the infrastructure needed to sustain them, a bias in the planning system and their enormous purchasing power has crowded out competition.

"We now have a situation where it is unimaginable that a small family owned shop could grow into a retailing powerhouse such as Tesco or Sainsbury's."



TAX: The report argues that more of a balance is needed against the power of the 'big four' supermarkets which dominate our food shopping

FINANCE

Harbour's profits are in ship shape

DOVER Harbour Board has seemingly sailed through the recession, posting increased profits for 2010.

The company's operating profit was up £100,000 on 2009, standing at £11.9 million. Turnover was down slightly at £57.2 million, from £58.5 million, but the firm managed to cut costs by three per cent. Passenger numbers rose by 0.8 per cent.

DHB chief executive Bob Goldfield said: "We have achieved a very good set of results against a backdrop of extremely challenging economic conditions and within the constraints imposed by our current Trust Port status.

"This not only illustrates that the port is a strong and robust business, but that the time is right for us to build on that reputation and success by further growing the business and providing the world class facility that present and future users and stakeholders deserve."

During 2010 DHB attained a number of awards and accreditations, while the number of road collisions in the port halved.

TRAINING

Open offer to all hospitality firms

LEISURE, travel and tourism businesses are being urged to swing into action ready to greet thousands of golfing enthusiasts heading to east Kent for The Open Championship in July.

Visit Kent, the county's tourism promoters, is organising a series of customer service training courses specifically tailored for those entertaining or providing services or accommodation during the tournament, which will feature the world's top players such as Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy.

The courses are being held in Dover on Tuesday June 14, in Margate on Wednesday 15, and in Canterbury on Thursday 16.

Visit Kent's Cheryl Parker said: "The courses will focus on all aspects of delivering exceptional customer service and tackle issues such as accessibility, working with older people and building long term relationships across a business to encourage repeat bookings and visits."

The Open is being held at Royal St George's Golf Club, Sandwich, in July.

EMPLOYMENT

Supermarket sets sights on St George

WAITROSE has announced plans for its first shop in Canterbury, a move which is set to create up to 180 new jobs.

The retailer will open a 25,000 sq ft food store and 230 customer car park spaces in St George's Place.

Whilst still subject to receiving change of use planning permission, Waitrose is hoping to welcome its very first customers in Canterbury through its doors by the end of this year.

The site, originally a Safeway supermarket, is currently anchored by an Aldi supermarket which, along with Bugsy's Ice 'n' Bowl, is closing down.

Waitrose director of development Nigel Keen said: "This is a really exciting opportunity for our business as the St George's Place site provides us with the perfect platform for us to bring substantial benefits to the area, including a significant number of new jobs, a wider choice of quality shopping facilities and services together with opportunities for local food and drink producers."

Waitrose has 11 stores in Kent and is set to open one in Sidcup later this year.



ABOVE PAR: Tiger Woods in full swing

COMMENT

UK taxpayers will not have to contribute to any Euro bailouts after 2013, it has been revealed.

The agreement with other EU nations could save the UK billions of pounds – allowing Government to pump this cash into our under-funded frontline services.

The announcement came just days after Chancellor George Osborne made his position clear on a potential second bailout of Greece: he wanted no part in it.

And you can understand why. The UK has already given £7 billion to prop up the Irish Republic's economy, £1.2 billion through the International Monetary Fund to rescue Greece last year, and it will now hand £4.3 billion to Portugal.

The collapse of the single currency would undoubtedly harm the UK economy, but greater harm is being caused by throwing billions of pounds each year – that we don't have and can't afford – to failing countries.

We have enough issues of our own right now and should focus on ensuring we recover from the recession before we look to help our European neighbours.

So congratulations go to Mr Osborne – a Government minister who has put British interests first.

Now it is vital he sticks to his position and focuses on UK job-creation and growth.

Simon Robinson Business Editor

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Congratulations go to George Osborne – a Government minister who has put British interests first



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Ferry operator is riding the crest of a wave after merger

WITH the merger of Norfolkline and DFDS Seaways, a major new player entered the competitive market of cross-Channel ferries.

The latest figures show the Danish-owned company has increased its market share for a sixth consecutive year in 2010 and cemented its position as the No2 car-ferry-operator in Dover with a 30 per cent market share, behind P&O.

Figures from IRN (Ferrystats) reveal that during 2010 DFDS Seaways carried more than 850,000 cars between Dover and Dunkirk – more than a ten-fold increase on the 81,000 cars carried in 2003.

DFDS is northern Europe's largest integrated shipping and logistics company.

Its Seaways arm operates a network of 30 routes with 60 freight and passenger ships, while DFDS Logistics provides freight solutions in Europe with trailers, containers and rail.

In the UK, the company operates three passenger service routes – Dover to Dunkirk, Newcastle to Amsterdam and Harwich to Esbjerg.

DFDS has 5,000 employees in 20 countries, and revenue is set to reach DKK 12 billion in 2011 (£1.41 billion).

The company was founded in 1866, is headquartered in Copenhagen and listed on NASDAQ OMX Copenhagen. DFDS is an abbreviation of Det Forenede Dampskibs-Selskab – literally The United Steamship Company.

A formal statement on the merger was issued recently by Niels Smedegaard, chief executive.

He said: "The integration of Norfolkline is progressing faster and better than expected. The results for 2010 and expectations for 2011 show that the acquisition clearly created value. At the end of this year we expect that the synergies [income derived from

FIGUREHEAD:

Captain Jesper from DFDS Seaways advertising campaigns



The BIG Interview

Reporter **Nick Ames** talks to DFDS Seaways passenger director Chris Newey, who says the company's merger with Norfolkline last year has allowed it to be more competitive and offer more to cross-Channel passengers looking to get to and from the Continent



"We are in a hugely competitive market in the way that airlines, for instance, are not. There may be many aircraft flying from one particular airport, but they are not all heading for the same place and vying for the same market share."

"From Dover all ferry traffic is heading for the Continent, whether it is Calais or Dunkirk."

"We feel we can offer passengers a different perspective on travel from other companies. Learning from the experience DFDS has – and what we learnt as Norfolkline – we have bought in something for every traveller."

"Dining, for instance – each ship has three options. There is fast food – burgers, pizzas and the like on offer – along with a self-service buffet and a tablecloth experience with full-service bistro."

"So there is something for families with children, something for people on a short break and something that appeals to business people or couples on holiday. Next month we are introducing Costa Coffee, so that will be another option available."

"Being part of a larger company has also allowed DFDS to be more competitive in its outlay for necessary services, according to Newey."

"Where we need new systems for our ships we can pool the costs with our other routes – the cost of development can be spread over the three lines which run from the UK."

The company runs three vessels from Dover on the Dunkirk run, which takes two hours to complete. They are the 40,000-tonne ships Dunkirk Seaways, Delft Seaways and Dover Seaways. Each can carry up to 1,000 passengers and 300 vehicles.

"The operations of the ferries is vital to the economy here in Dover and the rest of east Kent," said Newey.

"I view competition as a good thing as well. It keeps us on our toes and we need to ensure that we continually re-



Dover-Dunkirk

ONBOARD, DFDS Seaways offers a variety of food outlets to suit all tastes and budgets and has a dedicated children's play area – with ball ponds and climbing frames for families travelling with small children.

Ferry crossings from Dover to Dunkirk are designed for people travelling with their own vehicles, which means no foot passengers but plenty of space onboard for sitting and relaxing.

Fares for journeys between Dover and Dunkirk start from £25 each way for a car and up to four passengers. For those who are planning something extra-special, passengers can also choose to upgrade to the VIP lounge, which costs from £12 extra per person each way.

view all the options available to us.

"A significant proportion of our traffic is inbound into the UK and the position of Dunkirk is an advantage when it comes to taking in vehicles from Germany, Belgium and Holland as well as further afield. It is more convenient for operators from eastern and central Europe – places such as Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.

"I don't think it is possible to guarantee anything in business, but it is true that we are now established as one of the major operators in the cross-Channel market, and while that continues I am sure the company will continue to invest in our operations and enable it to grow."



SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE: Chris Newey says the choice DFDS Seaways offers its passengers is vital to its success in the competitive cross-Channel ferry market

TRAVEL

Canadian stop for Saga ship

SAGA is adding a new destination for its cruise ships – Pictou in Nova Scotia, Canada.

The Saga Pearl II is set to visit the town in September 2012 and staff from the holiday company are planning a site visit and talks later this year.

The Sandgate-based tour operators said sales for the north Atlantic cruise, which includes the town are likely to be strong. The move by the prestigious Kent business has been warmly welcomed by officials in Canada.

Pictou County Development Agency boss Katy MacDonald said: "The cruise business in Nova Scotia is growing year after year, and we are excited that such a well-known line has added the Port of Pictou to their visitor list.

"The Committee has been working diligently over the last five years in partnership with Atlantic Canada Cruise Association to attract ships to smaller ports in soliciting new business and to seek business from existing cruise companies that have Atlantic Canada on their itineraries."

PARTNERSHIP

FA and insurer in sponsor deal

KENT FA has made a major summer signing – bringing in Tokio Marine Europe as their principal sponsors.

The non-profit organisation, responsible for promoting grassroots football across the county, agreed terms with the commercial insurance company earlier this month.

Kent FA chief executive Paul Dolan said: "This deal illustrates the company's commitment to supporting the development of grassroots football in the county and the financial support from the partnership will allow us to continue to lead the way in providing football opportunities for everyone."

Tokio Marine insures a wide range of football related clients, from grassroots players up to Premiership Clubs.

The firm's Ian Monahan said: "We are proud to be invited to work with and sponsor the Kent FA. Supporting and developing football at all levels is something the company is passionate about."

INVESTMENT

Radar project underway

WORK has begun on building a multi-million pound radar system at Manston Airport.

The new primary and secondary radar system will play a large part of the freight and passenger airport's future and is designed to serve the projected growth of the site during the next 15 to 20 years.

The state-of-the-art devices have been funded by airport owners Infratil and offshore wind farm operators.

Manston chief executive Charles Buchanan said: "This major investment demonstrates our owner's commitment to the future of the airport.

"Through this investment the airport is able to ensure the continued safe movement of planes in and out of the airport and the operation of the two nationally important wind farms by London Array and Vattenfall, which will deliver 1.3 gigawatts of renewable energy, enough electricity for approximately one million households."

The new system is expected to be ready by 2012.

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Interest rate rise casts a dark economic cloud

By Nick Ames

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PLANS to raise interest rates could lead to a return to the economic dark days of the 1980s, according to a leading Labour politician.

Paul Clark, who was MP for Gillingham and Rainham from 1997 to 2010, issued his stark warning after experts stated an interest rate rise to halt a growth in inflation is imminent.

The Bank of England governor Mervyn said families should prepare for a rise, ending two years of historic lows.

Mr King suggested the rise in inflation – which the Bank said could hit five per cent in the final months of 2011 – has meant the possibility of an increase.

He said: "Bank rates cannot stay at this level indefinitely, and at some point it will return to more normal levels."

Mr Clark, Labour spokesman for Kent, said: "Mervyn King's words and the latest predictions of the Bank of England will strike fear at the very heart of families and businesses alike throughout Kent.

"The threat of interest rates being raised will remind businessmen and women of the last Tory government and double digit rates in the 80s and 90s, that crippled British business, forcing many to go to the wall and many thousands of people made redundant."

Higher borrowing costs could now be a major problem for homeowners, many of whom felt that – at least in the short term – monthly mortgage



WARNING: Former Labour MP Paul Clark foresees tough times

repayments would stay low.

Mr Clark said: "Higher interest rates will do nothing to help reassure businesses within Kent that the future is rosy.

"Already confidence has been undermined by the downgrading of forecast growth for 2011, by the Government's Office for Budget Responsibility four times in 12 months – from 2.6 per cent in June, 2010, to 2.3 per cent after George Osborne's emergency budget; then to 2.1 per cent after the coalition's spending review; and to 1.7 per cent after this year's budget.

"Now the governor of the Bank of England is downgrading it still further at about 1.5 per cent in six months.

"Cutting too deep and too fast, as this government is doing, is a vicious circle. The slower growth, higher unemployment and higher inflation that Mr Osborne's policies have delivered mean the Government will now have to borrow £46

billion more than they were planning a few months ago.

"In contrast, a year ago, Labour's plans to support the recovery saw the economy start to grow strongly, unemployment fall and borrowing come in over £21bn lower than forecast.

"But our plan was based on restoring strong, sustainable growth, getting people back into work, and then beginning the difficult task of cutting spending and raising taxes where necessary.

"The commitment to halve the deficit in four years was the same commitment agreed to by all G20 countries."

A rate rise to one per cent would increase monthly repayments on an average £150,000 variable rate mortgage by £43 a month or £516 a year.

On current estimates across the UK two-thirds of homeowners have a variable rate mortgage, meaning nearly eight million households would pay more.

The warning comes as household gas bills are set to jump by an average of £100 and electricity bills by £50 in the next nine months – with no respite for a further two years.

At present, the average gas bill is £666 a year and the average electricity bill is £473.

In its report, the Bank also downgraded its economic growth forecasts for this year from around two per cent to 1.75 per cent, and said the squeeze on living standards would last longer than initially thought.

Boris gives young entrepreneurs a boost with business bootcamps

BUDDING entrepreneurs are being urged to sign up for a series of tailor-made Business Bootcamps.

The multi-sector start-up scheme was launched by Mayor of London Boris Johnson.

It is hoped the capital-based initiative will give 1,000 young business hopefuls the opportunity to develop the key skills they will need to build successful companies.

Mr Johnson said: "London is brimming with entrepreneurial spirit across a huge range of sectors; from fashion to finance, science to technology, hospitality and the arts.

"New enterprising start-ups are going to be ever more important to our city's prosperity and as we continue to creep out of recession we must do all we can to support those with the brightest ideas. These brilliant bootcamps will help budding entrepreneurs to get the inside track from the experts on how to start and grow successful, thriving companies."

Specialist bootcamps will be offered in fields including digital and mobile technology, fashion, hospitality, entertainment, creative and bio-tech industries.

The scheme has been funded by £275,000 from the Royal Bank of Scotland and £135,000 from the EU's Interreg pot.

RBS' business and commercial banking chief executive Ian Cowie said: "Helping new businesses succeed is crucial to economic recovery and London start-ups will play a huge role in this."

"We're helping more businesses get off the ground than any other bank and of the 2,000 new business start-ups we support across Britain each week, one in four are based in London. We're investing in this programme to help more new businesses to get access to quality advice early on."

For more information visit www.thebusiness-bootcamp.org.



New depot helping firm move forward in these difficult times

By Simon Robinson

simon.robinson@archant.co.uk

WORK continues to gather pace at family-owned haulage company Alan Firmin's new bespoke transport and distribution depot.

The established transport, distribution and warehousing company began construction work on their new transport development at Kemsley Business Park, Sittingbourne, in February.

The project includes extensive trailer parking facilities, offices, warehouse, covered loading area and dedicated trailer servicing bay.

The depot is expected to be finished by November this year, at which time the company will move from its current Snodland base.

The total cost of the build – including land, design, brick-work and custom-fit – represents a £5 million investment.

Director Paul Denyer said the Sittingbourne headquarters would lead to growth.

"It's a springboard for us," he said. "We're hoping the new depot will bring in more business, and it has to as the development needs to pay for itself."

"There will be more work which will lead to new employment opportunities."

Denyer said the new six-acre Sittingbourne site was chosen for a number of reasons.

He said: "The plot gives us



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These are very exciting times for us in what is an uncertain economy

PAUL DENYER

THE FUTURE: The depot is expected to be complete in November

a bigger lorry park. At the moment our Snodland site is mainly warehouse and we have to rent additional lorry space.

The Sittingbourne relocation also brings us nearer to our main client base, improving efficiencies.

Denyer added that the firm was keen for the November deadline to come.

"These are very exciting times for us in what is a difficult and uncertain economy," he said.

Very few businesses are doing what we're doing and very few will ever have the opportunity to do so."

Formed in 1928, Alan Firmin has grown to a company with total assets of more than £50m and a turnover of £16m.

The company employs more than 100 members of staff and has a fleet of more than 180 vehicles, trailers and tractors.

Performance index puts our hauliers at risk of bankruptcy as fuel prices continue rising

SMALL to medium hauliers remain at significant risk of bankruptcy, according to new research.

The bleak prediction was made by Bibby Financial Services, which found that more than half of the UK logistics firms had to cut costs during the first quarter after a slow start to the year.

Bibby's chief executive Edward Rimmer said small firms across the sector would find it most difficult to keep their heads above water, despite growth in March.

"The SMEs will be in the greatest danger, as the cost of fuel bites deeper into profits of business managers and owners."

Established Kent-based firm Derek Linch Haulage was one of the biggest



CASUALTY: Derek Linch Haulage had to close recently due to rising fuel prices

casualties of Q1, closing its doors after more than 34 years in business.

The family-owned company, which traded out of Romney Marsh, ran 20 trucks and employed 31 members of staff, who all lost their jobs.

Director Derek Linch said in March the loss of a big client and the rising price of fuel had forced his hand.

"We are closing the doors at 5pm on March 14," he said. "This is a very sad thing to have to do."

The Bibby index revealed that of the logistics firms tracked, 59 per cent said they had cut costs ahead of further predicted price pressures.

Nearly half of respondents said they were in a worse position than they were a year ago.

Rimmer said all companies in the industry had to remain vigilant.

"It is imperative that firms of all sizes have funding in place to secure their business performance or even invest in opportunities for growth."



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Armed Forces called up for web service

EX-SERVICEMEN and women are being recruited by BT to help deliver super-fast broadband across the UK.

The communications giant plans to take on 200 former Army, Navy and RAF personnel - including about 25 in Kent - as part of its Openreach business network scheme.

They will form part of a mobile engineering workforce which will help to deploy super-fast broadband to two-thirds of all UK premises by the end of 2015.

Openreach chief executive Olivia Garfield said: "It's fantastic we've been able to recruit so many ex-armed services personnel."

"These people have served their country well and so deserve the chance of full-time employment with a generous reward package. They are highly-skilled, motivated and disciplined and have experience of complex engineering tasks in challenging environments."

"Our fast-track recruitment programme should see the majority of them join us by the end of May and, given their experience, we will be able to train them up quickly and get them straight out where we need them."

BT has been working on the broadband scheme with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP), which provides career guidance, training, and employment support to those leaving the Armed Forces.

The CTP is an arrangement between the Ministry of Defence and the global career management firm Right Management.

Lt Cdr Mark Walker from the MoD's training, education, skills and resettlement team said: "We are delighted Openreach has recognised the talent, skills and versatility of our service leavers, especially targeting them for recruitment."

"We strongly welcome this initiative and its promise of rewarding employment and career opportunities for many Armed Forces personnel."

CTP managing director David Duffy added: "We have had an amazing success rate with this project and have received tremendous feedback about the high calibre of the service leavers who have applied for the roles on offer."

"This reflects the highly sought-after skill sets, ability and attitude of those leaving the Armed Forces."

Practical skills in the spotlight for VQ Day

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

VOCATIONAL learning will be celebrated in Kent next month with the arrival of the fourth annual VQ Day.

Organised by the independent education foundation Edge, the national event aims to raise the status of practical learning and celebrate the achievements of those who study vocational subjects such as hairdressing, catering and construction.

Schools, colleges and other supporters across the county are expected to take part in VQ Day, on June 22.

Edge chief executive Peter Mitchell said: "We believe every young person should be given the opportunity to succeed with access to practical and vocational learning as well as academic study, and those who choose to do so should have their achievements celebrated."

"With the Government showing increasing support for vocational pathways, the tide is turning in our favour."

"Vocational qualifications have never been more important to the economy and the individual: they deliver the trained, talented employees businesses are crying out for and ensure young people have the skills needed to succeed in work and life."

Last March a Government-commissioned review of vocational training by education expert Professor Alison Wolf recognised Kent's training centres as "beacons of excellence" that ensure young people can access the specialist programmes they want.

There are currently stand-alone vocational centres in Dover and Thanet, with two in Swale and one due to open in Maidstone.

The rest are based in schools including Thamesview School in Gravesend, Herne Bay High School, the Towers School in Ashford, and Pent Valley in Folkestone.

Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter said at the time: "I strongly believe that one size does not fit all when it comes to education, which is why Kent has championed and pioneered vocational education alongside the traditional academic subjects."

"There are more than 8,000 students in Kent benefiting from this trail-blazing programme, learning skills which employers in the county are crying out for."

A VQ is a recognised qualification at any level relating to a particular line of work or specific job role, with an emphasis on the assessment of practical skills and knowledge.

Examples include BTECs, City and Guilds and apprenticeships.

Edge chairman Lord Kenneth Baker said: "VQ Day offers a great opportunity for colleges, businesses and educationalists to come together and celebrate the achievements of vocational learners."

"Vocational qualifications offer unrivalled training and learning opportunities for students while helping to meet the needs of employers looking for specific skill-sets."

Visit www.vqday.org.uk for more details including information on how to get involved.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email steve.knight@archant.co.uk or give him a call on 01303 817136.



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New learning programme aims to change art perceptions at gallery

TURNER Contemporary has launched a new learning programme aiming to change the way teachers and children learn about the visual arts.

The scheme – called We Are Curious – aims to bring more than 5,000 schoolchildren to the Margate gallery between now and April next year.

It was launched at a special event attended by teachers, governors, higher and further education tutors, youth workers and other community lead-

ers from across the county.

Turner Contemporary director Victoria Pomery said: "The gallery is an amazing resource, and learning is at the heart of what we do here at Turner Contemporary."

"Learning is important in a community where many young people have had negative experiences of education."

"I'm thrilled this event has brought together so many educational professionals from around Kent, and I believe the

combination of inspirational spaces, creative ideas and great art will foster civic pride, change attitudes and provide opportunities for young people to access culture."

The £17.5m Turner Contemporary gallery opened on April 16 and attracted more than 65,000 visitors in its first six weeks.

Visit www.turnercontemporary.org or call 01843 233000 for more information about learning and events.

Hair students battle it out in competition

MORE than 60 students showed off their styling skills in an attempt to be crowned MidKent College's hairdresser of the year.

The competition – sponsored by Goldwell hair products – was held across four weeks at the college's Maidstone campus, with Donna Marchant, Sarah Curtis and Leigh Micallef coming first, second and third respectively.

Lecturer and contest judge Helen Henderson said: "The students were given a loose theme to work with in each of the competition heats. These included 'red carpet', 'anything goes' and 'night on the town'."

"They worked extremely hard and the professionalism and creativity they demonstrated was outstanding."

The competition final was co-judged by Ms Henderson, assistant principal and former beautician Jill Edwards, personal tutor Wendy George and Goldwell representative Ken Sage.

It was open to all hair design students at the Maidstone campus, from level one to three.

Ms Henderson said: "We hoped those from our lower level courses would be motivated by the challenge, and I am proud to say all those who entered showed great imagination in their work and demonstrated that you can create inspiring designs whatever ability or level you are."

Goldwell donated a range of prizes for first, second and third place, with winning student Donna being sent on a colour course at the firm's training centre in Mayfair, London.

Mr Sage said: "The college should be so im-



WINNER: Donna Marchant scooped first prize pressed with what the students have done. This entire competition has been fabulous."

MidKent College's full-time hair design courses lead to nationally recognised qualifications that either prepare students for work in the hairdressing industry or enable those who are already qualified as hairdressers to develop and enhance their skills.

A number of part-time and evening courses are also on offer in subjects including wedding hair and make-up, barbers and perms.

Visit www.midkent.ac.uk for more information.

Adult Learners' Week celebrates students' life-changing stories

A WEIGHTLIFTER and a female motorbike mechanic were among those recognised as part of Adult Learners' Week.

Ken Wildman, 55, from Folkestone, has hopes of becoming a national weightlifting coach and has returned to education after his dyslexia forced him to quit an Open University course.

Tina Eastwood, 33, from Herne Bay, left school with no qualifications but has since completed several courses and

has her sights set on becoming a motorbike MOT tester.

Both have received awards for their dedication to learning as part of Adult Learners' Week, which ended on Friday, May 20.

Further education minister John Hayes said: "I wholeheartedly congratulate all the individuals and organisations that have received an Adult Learners' Week Award."

"Their inspiring stories bring to light the power learning

has to transform the lives of people of all ages, encourage social mobility and build a better society."

Alan Tuckett, chief executive of the National Institute of Adult Continuing Learning, added: "The stories of our award winners once again illustrate the overwhelmingly positive impact learning has on people's lives. I hope adults across the country will be inspired to discover for themselves a whole new life."

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- d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of Archant KOS Media Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
- e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by Archant KOS Media Ltd in the event of debts not paid by the due date.
- f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which Archant KOS Media Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertisers are agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions of the Advertising Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private and business accounts will be prepared in the categories as laid down by Archant KOS Media Ltd.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify Archant KOS Media Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the Archant KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threats of legal action arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void unless as it can be shown that it is reasonable.
28. Content in advertisements will be produced wholly or partially by the media owners belonging to Archant KOS Media Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the individuals and organisations. Archant KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

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SENIOR WAREHOUSE OPERATIVE

Is required to manage stores and despatch areas. The applicant will have responsibility for the Stores team, management of stores locations, ensuring stock integrity with regular stock checks. Timely movement of parts to support the business performance. Data entry covering Kitting/Picking/Issuing of works orders. P.I. checks and responsibility for Gas & Chemicals.

SALES ADMINISTRATOR

The Sales Administrator will be involved in the day to day running of the Sales Office and responsible for assisting and supporting the Sales Team with the preparation and distribution of sales documentation, covering Internal/External sales activities. The ideal applicant will be self motivated able to work on own initiative with extensive administration abilities. Fully IT literate, excellent written and verbal communication skills with attention to detail. Team player.

Please submit your CV to:
Gina Bromley, Centronic Ltd.
267 King Henry's Drive, Croydon, CR9 0BG

CENTRONIC
Centronic is a specialist technology business that has a market-leading position in the design and manufacture of sensors and detectors for customers around the world.

PROCESS ENGINEER

To provide technical support to our Silicon Detector department. The applicant will be responsible for the creation of specifications, supporting production, problem solving and improving processes. Ideally a minimum of 5 years experience in a Process Engineering environment with HNC minimum or equivalent is required, with good written and verbal communication skills. The role will entail direct contact with customers to understand their requirements and to problem solve technical queries.

PROJECT MANAGER

Is required to manage Centronic's project planning, to act as the customer's primary point of contact. The applicant will be responsible for monitoring quality/technical/schedule/cost performance, for preparing and distributing routine progress reports to senior management and customer. Excellent written and verbal communication skills. Computer literate in MS Office applications, with experience of using Microsoft Project or other suitable program as a project-planning tool.

SENIOR WAREHOUSE OPERATIVE

Is required to manage stores and despatch areas. The applicant will have responsibility for the Stores team, management of stores locations, ensuring stock integrity with regular stock checks. Timely movement of parts to support the business performance. Data entry covering Kitting/Picking/Issuing of works orders. P.I. checks and responsibility for Gas & Chemicals.

SALES ADMINISTRATOR

The Sales Administrator will be involved in the day to day running of the Sales Office and responsible for assisting and supporting the Sales Team with the preparation and distribution of sales documentation, covering Internal/External sales activities. The ideal applicant will be self motivated able to work on own initiative with extensive administration abilities. Fully IT literate, excellent written and verbal communication skills with attention to detail. Team player.



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Saint George's

Church of England School
Humanities College

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082
Fax: 01474 533844
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided,
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Due to the retirement of the current post holder, we are seeking an experienced Receptionist to join our Main Office Administration team. Applicants will need to have strong administrative, customer service and communication skills to work with our variety of stakeholders.

Saint George's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Please contact the school to request further details and an application form quoting ref:KOS1 (Email thomsonsm@saingeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk) or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

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MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Project Manager

Ref: PRO01

37 hours per week
Maidstone

We are currently in the early stages of a £23 million development programme to upgrade our Maidstone Campus for which we are tendering for a Project Director on a consultancy basis. This is an in-house appointment to act as the project lead from 1st August 2011. The external project management team will report to you for the duration of the contract which is expected to conclude in March 2014. Interested parties will be required to propose the precise time required for successful delivery of the project, however it is anticipated that this will be in the region of 10 to 12 days a month subject to the needs of specific projects. You will be responsible for the successful delivery of a range of projects within the overall development programme including substantial reconfiguration and refurbishment of existing premises, potential estate acquisitions and disposals, decent and relocation.

The appointment process for the above role will be managed via our InTend portal. To set yourself up as a potential supplier you will need to register on the site. <https://intendhost.co.uk/fe> (please select business category 'W - Estates and Buildings').

Expressions of Interest will need to be made via that site by 10th June with tender bids in by 1st July.

Lecturer in Human Resources and Management

Ref: P0422

Salary: £30,718 - £34,005 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
25.9 hours per week
Maidstone

MidKent College has a long history of successfully preparing candidates for the very demanding CIPD national examinations and the rigorous requirements of the CMI programmes. We are now looking for someone who is committed to excellence in teaching to join the team. The successful candidate will have extensive professional experience in HRM and be able to use that experience to enhance their credibility in the classroom. Ideally you will be a Chartered Member of the CIPD but candidates in the final stages of gaining chartered status will be considered

Lecturer in Business

Ref: P0490

Salary: £ 26,336 - £29,618 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)
22.2 hours per week
Maidstone

A lecturer is required to teach on our successful one-year and two-year Business A-level courses. In addition the successful candidate may be required to teach some BTEC Business at level 3. We are looking for an experienced Lecturer who is committed to excellence and is able to undertake the responsibilities of a Course Tutor.

CLOSING DATE: 31 May 2011

MidKent College and RBLI Employment Solutions are working in partnership to support disabled applicants. For assistance please contact RBLI on 0800783114 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk

For an application pack and further details visit www.midkent.ac.uk or e mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively you may contact Human Resources on 01634 383102.

The College is committed to safeguarding children and young people therefore any offer of employment will be subject to a CRB check.

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Canterbury Health Practice
drtracy@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: Acc01

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Canterbury
Salary 14k
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Canterbury Health Practice
drtracy@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: Rec Aug10

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Canterbury
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
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drtracy@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1

Sales Administrator
North/Mid Kent
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Centronic Ltd
GBromley@Centronic.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: Archant KOS Media

Front of House Administrator
London
Salary 21375-23277

To apply/more information:
rachelains@altmore.newham.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Office Assistant
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Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
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London
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To apply/more information:
maureen@cliftonsmanagement.co.uk
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To apply/more information:
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Quoting Job Ref: kos

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HIGHWAYS - Borough of Ashford**BRUNSWICK ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway patching and repairs to areas of potholes and surface failure, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Brunswick Road, Ashford, on or after 23 May 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with the A28 for a distance of approximately 15 metres.

The alternative route is via Brunswick Road, Hilton Road and A28 Chart Road.

CHURCH ROAD, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway and footway improvement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Road, Ashford, on or after 6 June 2011 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Queen Street and Norwood Street.

The alternative route is via A292 Elwick Road, Bank Street and Tufton Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Church Road between Norwood Street and Tufton Street, and the No Right Turn Order from Tufton Street into Church Road, will be suspended to allow access up to the point of closure.

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury**BREDLANDS LANE, STURRY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of the installation of a new waste water inspection chamber, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bredlands Lane, Sturry, from 28 May 2011 until 6 June 2011 or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Spires Academy. The alternative route is via A28 Island Road, Staines Hill, Babs Oak Hill and Hoath Road.

BOLTS HILL, CHARTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to provide a new waste water connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bolts Hill, Chartham, on or after 23 May 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of The Old Ford Yard.

The alternative route is via Bolts Hill, Shalmsford Street, Baker's Lane, Rattington Street, Station Road and Parish Road.

SWEETCHBRIDGE ROAD, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sweenchbridge Road, Herne Bay, on or after 31 May 2011 for up to 6 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with May Street and the railway bridge.

The alternative route is via A299 Thanet Way, B2205 Margate Road and Reculver Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford**HIGHCROSS ROAD, SOUTHFLEET - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Highcross Road, Southfleet from its junction with Whitehill Road and Hook Green Road.

The Order will become effective on 6th June 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Whitehill Road, Green Street Green Road and Sandbanks Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT works.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
UNIVERSITY WAY, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is being held on the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by Dartford Toll bound vehicular traffic on University Way, Dartford from the roundabout at Thames Road to the A282 roundabout.

The Order will become effective on 23rd May 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the event is planned to take place 29th May 2011 and 26th June 2011 and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Burnham Road, Victoria Road, Hythe Street, Highfield Road, East Hill, Park Road and Princes Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the Bridge Triathlon.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover**LAURESTON PLACE, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Laureston Place, Dover, on or after 6 June 2011 for up to 4 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Castle Hill. The alternative route is via A258 Castle Hill Road and Victoria Park

UPPER STREET, KINGSDOWN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Upper Street, Kingsdown, on or after 6 June 2011 for up to 11 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Chalk Hill Road, Ringwould Road, A258 Dover Road, Granville Road, Kingsdown Road and Cliffe Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham**SPRINGHEAD ROAD, NORTHFLEET - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Springhead Road, Northfleet between York Road and Thames Way.

The Order will become effective on 23rd May 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Thames Way, London Road and Springhead Road. The purpose of the closure is to facilitate renewal of existing gas main.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A249 SITTINGBOURNE ROAD/DETLING HILL AND OTHER ROADS AT DETLING/THURNHAM/STOCKBURY) (TRAFFIC SPEED AND TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting traffic speed, the regulation of traffic and the use by traffic as described below. The order shall come into operation at times when required on 28th/29th/30th May 2011 and 15th/16th/17th July 2011.

Schedule

(The Speed limits and Traffic Regulations)

1. Traffic in excess of 40 mph shall be prohibited as follows:-

- (i) On Detling Hill, Detling/Sittingbourne Road, Thurnham/Stockbury between the existing permanent 50 mph speed restriction at a point 480 metres north east of the junction with Scragged Oak Road to the turning for Detling Aerodrome Industrial Estate on the north east bound carriageway and from the Lily Spice restaurant on the south west bound carriageway. Also to prevent
- (ii) Traffic in excess of 50 mph shall be prohibited from The Lily Spice restaurant to the right hand turn into Detling Aerodrome Industrial Estate and then prohibited to 40 mph to the top of Detling Hill.
- (iii) Traffic in excess of 40 mph shall be prohibited on Sittingbourne Road/Detling Hill, Detling/Thurnham/Stockbury in both directions between its junction with the M20 roundabout (junction 7) and the M2 roundabout (junction 5).

2. No person shall, except upon the direction of a Police Officer, cause or permit a vehicle to:-

- (i) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 south west bound into Scragged Oak Road.
- (ii) Carry out a right hand turn from Scragged Oak Road onto the A249 south west bound.
- (iii) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 northbound into South Green Lane.
- (iv) Carry out a right hand turn or "U" turn on the A249 northbound at its junction with Rumstead Lane.
- (v) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Aerodrome Approach.
- (vi) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Chalky Road.
- (vii) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Church Hill.
- (viii) Carry out a right hand turn from A249 southbound into Honeycrock Hill.
- (ix) Carry out a right hand turn from Pett Lane northbound onto A249.

3. The alternative routes for traffic affected by 2(i), 2(ii), 2(iii), 2(iv), (v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix) above are either:-

- (i) via the roundabout at junction 5 of the M2 motorway
- (ii) via the roundabout at junction 7 of the M20 motorway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (KENWARD ROAD, YALDING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Kenward Road from Kenward Farm entrance heading northerly for 150m on or after Monday 23rd May 2011 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Kenward Road, Bow Hill, B2015 Maidstone Road, Hampstead Lane, The Lees, High Street.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for drainage works. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Jamie Finch on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks**DARTFORD ROAD, SEVENOAKS - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Dartford Road, Sevenoaks between The Drive and The Vine.

The Order will become effective on 23rd May 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 28th May 2011 20.00 and end 29th May 2011 17.00. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Pembroke Road, London Road, Tubs Hill and St Botolphs Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate removal of a tower crane from Southdown's Homes.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Swale**CHESTNUT STREET, BORDEN (WIDTH RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Kent County Council intends to make an Order to suspend the 6' 6" width restriction on Chestnut Street, Borden, on or after 6 June 2011 for up to 5 days or until works have been completed.

This is for the use of Chestnut Street as a diversion whilst the southbound carriageway of the A249 is closed for maintenance works, and applies when the relevant signs are covered or removed.

This Order suspends the Kent County Council (Various Roads, Borden, Bredgar, Bicknor, Tunstall and Sittingbourne) (Width Restriction) Order 1990

NORTON ROAD, NORTON, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

To allow BT access to chambers for gulley cleaning, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Norton Road, Norton, Faversham, on or after 1 June 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with London Road and Lewson Street Road.

The alternative route is via A2 London Road and Provener Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, BREDGAR AND TUNSTALL, SWALE) (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2011

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Orders under section 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the proposed Order will introduce a 40 mph speed limit on the following roads or lengths of road:

Bredgar Road from the junction with Rookery Close for a distance of 420 metres in an easterly direction and 220 metres in a westerly direction to the existing 30 mph speed limit terminal.

Swanton Street from the junction with Bashford Barn Lane for a distance of 600 metres in a southerly direction and 375 metres in a northerly direction to the existing 30 mph speed limit terminal.

A copy of the proposed Order, statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, a map indicating the location and the effect and a copy of any other Orders which will be amended by the proposed Order may be examined at the Council Offices of Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone during normal opening times.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send your grounds for your observations in writing to the Transport and Development Manager Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TD.Ashford.Swale@kent.gov.uk by 12 noon on 13th June 2011

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet**COTTAGE ROAD, RAMSGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to install a new gas supply to Hibernia Cottage, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cottage Road, Ramsgate, on or after 6 June 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Abbott's Hill and Hibernia Street.

The alternative route is via Hibernia Street, Camden Road and Abbott's Hill.

COTTINGTON ROAD, MINSTER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

Because of works for the construction of new bridge parapets in connection with the forthcoming East Kent Access Road, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cottington Road, Minster, on or after 8 June 2011 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed for a total of 3 nights within the closure period, with the specific dates advised and signed on site. The planned times of closure are between 10.30 pm and 5.00 am.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Thorne Hill / Ebbsfleet Lane to the junction with Oakland Court.

The alternative route is via Foads Lane, Cliffs End Road, A256 Sandwich Road, Lord of the Manor Interchange, A299 Canterbury Road West, Tothill Street, Foxborough Lane, The Lanes and Grinsell Hill.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS WESTWOOD, THANET) (RESTRICTED ROADS) ORDER 2011

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Orders under section 82 (2) and 83 (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the proposed Order will introduce a 30 mph speed limit on various roads in the Westwood area as follows:

A254 Ramsgate Road, Westwood	From a central traffic island 10m south of 300 Ramsgate Road to Poorhole Lane
A254 Margate Road	From Poorhole Lane to the existing 30mph speed limit
A256 Haine Road	From a point 43m west of the junction with Nash Lane to and including the Westwood roundabout

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Monday to Friday at Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or at Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to: The Transportation and Development Manager (East Kent) Kent Highway Services, Ashford

Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD. Or by email to td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk by 12 noon on Friday 10 June 2011

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (LOVE LANE, WATERINGBURY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Love Lane, from outside number 5 to Mill Oast House on or after Monday 6th June 2011 when required for a period of up to 1 week or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via A26 Tonbridge Road, Mill Lane.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for drainage works. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Jamie Finch on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (LONG MILL LANE, PLATT) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Long Mill Lane, outside of 'Wychwood' on or after Monday 23rd May 2011 when required for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Comp Lane, Boneashe Lane, Potash Lane, Long Mill Lane.

UK Power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to supply a new service. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Alan Piralic of Renteq Traffic Management Ltd on 01634 256291.

Katherine Kerswell
Group Managing Director
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent, ME14 1XQ

Dated 20th May 2011

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800
(local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications
11/01063/FUL Luis Hand Car Wash 11 London Road, Broadwater
- Retrospective: Change of use from petrol filling station to a hand car wash and valeting operation (LB) (CA)

11/01256/LBC Park View House Hungershall Park, Broadwater
- Extension of Time: Alterations to existing outbuilding to form ancillary accommodation (TW/08/01939/FUL refers) (CA)

11/01264/LBC 3 Bothy Cottage Tudeley Road, Capel
- Listed Building Consent: Replace existing roof window in rear roof slope with dormer window (LB)

11/01221/HOUSE Old Cloth Hall Course Horn Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Ground floor extension to 1930's west wing, alterations to the southern roof slope at first floor to form a new dormer window, lowering of cills to post 1930's playroom extension, replacement of external store room, lowering of ground level to south western corner (LB)

11/01225/LBC Old Cloth Hall Course Horn Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Ground floor extension to 1930's west wing, alterations to the southern roof slope at first floor to form a new dormer window, lowering of cills to post 1930's playroom extension, replacement of external store room, lowering of ground level to south western corner (LB)

11/01242/FUL The Barracks Wilsley Green, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Conversion of main dwelling to 3 self contained apartments, the squash court to 3 self contained apartments, the oast building to 2 self contained apartments, reinstatement of barn to form 1 bed apartment, new garden wall and car parking (CA) (LB)

11/01243/LBC The Barracks Wilsley Green, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Listed Building Consent: Conversion of main dwelling to 3 self contained apartments, the squash court to 3 self contained apartments, the east building to 2 self contained apartments, reinstatement of barn to form 1 bed apartment, new garden wall and car parking (LB)

11/01294/FUL White Cottage Goudhurst Road, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
- Relocation of two loose boxes from current location within the residential curtilage to adjacent field behind tennis court (LB)

11/01268/FULM J Crofton Lodge 7 Culverden Park Road, Culverden
- Redevelopment to provide an 18 unit Class C2 close support residential care facility, with staff accommodation, communal facilities, parking and landscaping (MAJOR)

11/01336/LBC 79 Mount Ephraim Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Listed Building Consent: Internal alterations at lower ground floor level (LB)

11/01164/HOUSE Street Farm Oast Cranbrook Road, Frittenden
- Extension of Time: Two-storey extension and alterations to existing residence (TW/08/01273 refers) (CA) (LB)

11/01325/LBC The Bell Hedgebury International School Hedgebury Road, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Fire door opening through two second floor rooms to be created as requested by Kent Fire and Rescue Services (LB)

11/01301/FUL The Bull 79 Frant Road, Pantiles & St Marks
- Installation of 6 antennas with an extended GRP chimney, 1no shared equipment cabinet and development ancillary thereto (CA)

11/01348/LBC 12 Sussex Mews Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Listed Building Consent: Internal alterations (LB)

11/01156/FUL Allen Gardiner Cottage Pembury Road, Park
- Change of use from A2 to C3 - two dwellings (CA)

11/01300/HOUSE Milner Court Camden Park, Park
- Part demolition of existing garage and erection of side extension on ground and part first floor and associated external works (CA)

11/01119/LBC Flat 3 St Martin, Speldhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Replace leaking felt flat roof with fibre glass (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells.

We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe

Head of Planning Services

Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 21 May 2011



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PLANNING

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/11/0465/N - FIRST FLOOR AND SECOND FLOOR, 85, BANK STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1SD - Change of use of 1st and 2nd floor offices to 5 bedroom flat. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/11/0499/N - 8, CHURCHILL COTTAGES, LIVERTON HILL, SANDWAY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2NJ - Erection of a two storey rear extension. **Reason: 1, 2**

MA/11/0500/N - 8, CHURCHILL COTTAGES, LIVERTON HILL, SANDWAY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2NJ - An application for listed building consent for demolition of first floor extension and conservatory and erection of a two storey rear extension. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/0550/S - ROCK FARM, GIBBS HILL, NETTLESTEAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 5HT - Rebuilding of stables to form accommodation for holiday let. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/0575/N - DETLING LIME WORKS, HERMITAGE LANE, DETLING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3HW - Variation of condition 5 of appeal decision of MA/05/1462 (Retrospective application for the change of use of land to a mixed use of residential and business use to include the stationing of 1 number caravan and the retention of 3 number outbuildings (2 being conjoined) to allow a second vehicle to be kept on the site). **Reason: 7**

MA/11/0600/S - LAND ADJ, WILSONS LANE, EAST FARLEIGH, KENT - Retrospective application for change of use from agricultural use to equestrian use (resubmission of MA/10/1908). **Reason: 6**

MA/11/0602/S - LINTON PARK SCHOOL, HEATH ROAD, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4HT - An application to vary condition 14 of permission MA/06/2070 so that the number of pupils registered on the school roll shall not at any time exceed 200. **Reason: 6**

MA/11/0603/N - 6 JAMES WHATMAN COURT, TURKEY MILL, ASHFORD ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 5SS - Application for Listed Building consent for installation of replacement entrance doors, windows and new logo. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/0604/N - 6 JAMES WHATMAN COURT, TURKEY MILL, ASHFORD ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 5SS - Installation of replacement entrance doors and windows. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/0607/S - GREEN COURT COTTAGE, HIGH STREET, STAPLEHURST, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0AP - Application for Listed Building consent for the installation of new conservation rooflights, a replacement rooflight and internal alterations, including replacement of existing staircase. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/0613/N - HONYWOOD FARM, WEST STREET, LENHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2EP - An application for listed building consent for internal alterations, including removal of ceiling joists at first floor, alterations to first floor structure including removal and replacement of first floor partitions. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/0618/S - STAPLEHURST SERVICE STATION, HIGH STREET, STAPLEHURST, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 0BN - Renewal of permission MA/08/0205 for residential development comprising thirteen dwellings (six apartments and seven houses) with associated parking and access. **Reason: 2, 6**

MA/11/0624/S - MEREWORTH COTTAGE, LADDINGTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6BU - Erection of a single storey store/eating area to replace existing garage/store. **Reason: 1**

MA/11/0635/S - 442, TONBRIDGE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 9LW - An application for listed building consent for internal and external works including the introduction of a roof light and dormer to the rear elevation, joinery works and various internal works. **Reason: 3**

MA/11/0639/S - THE WILLOWS, CHURCH GREEN, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9HL - Variation of condition 2 of planning permission MA/10/0662 to allow for the units to be accommodated by residents of 55 years or above and/or registered disabled. **Reason: 6**

MA/11/0661/N - ARNOLD FARM, BACK STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1TF - Retrospective application for the erection of an agricultural machinery and equipment wash-down building. **Reason: 1**

Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
- 4 - Application is Major Development.
- 5 - Application affects a Public Right of Way.



Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **5th June 2011**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 22nd May 2011

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

KCC/SW/0194/2011 - Proposed development at Unit 15A, Ridham Dock Industrial Estate, Ridham Dock Road, Ridham, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8SR.

SITA UK is applying to Kent County Council (as the Waste Planning Authority) for planning permission for the use of building 15A for internal shredding and screening of wood; use of existing weighbridge, weighbridge office, site office and washroom/toilet to the south of building 15A and use of external storage area to the north for storage of shredded wood.

You may view this application at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT or our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

KCC/AS/0207/2011 - Proposed development at Charing Wastewater Treatment Works, Dog Kennel Lane, Maidstone Road, Charing, Ashford, Kent, TN27 0JL.

Southern Water Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for development of three buildings (GRP Kiosks) as part of upgrading to Charing Wastewater Treatment Works.

You may view this application at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, the application documents can be viewed via a computer link using Kent County Council's website shown below, at the following locations:-

- a) Ashford Borough Council, Central Reception in the Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford
- b) The Gateway Centre, 14 Park Mall, Ashford
- c) Tenterden Gateway, 2 Manor Row, High Street, Tenterden

Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 22 May 2011



PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Borough of Tunbridge Wells

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH WS21

IN THE PARISH OF SOUTHBOROUGH

(Public Footpath WS21 in the Parish of Southborough)

(Prohibition Of Traffic) Temporary Order 2011

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 14(3), As Amended By The Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath WS21, between Andrew Road and Barnets Way from the 31st May 2011.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 13th June 2011.

The path is to be closed because works are planned under the path and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is along the footway from Barnets Way to Andrew Road and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact

Jonathan Bibby

Tel: (01732) 872829 ext 8

Countryside Access Service

Kent County Council

Invicta House

County Hall

Maidstone

Kent ME14 1XX

Dated: 22nd May 2011

The above notice may be provided in other formats

For further information, please contact

Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210

(Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)

or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Anita Rozye of 8 Queen Street Gravesend DA12 2EE has applied to Gravesend Borough Council for the Grant Sale of Alcohol MON-THURS 10am-8pm FRI-SAT 10am-10pm SUN 10am-8pm for the premises U ANITY situated at 8 Queen Street Gravesend DA12 2EE A register of licensing applications can be inspected: www.gravesend.gov.uk/licensing or at Civic Centre Windmill Street Gravesend KENT DA12 1UA tel 01474 37334 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday. Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above giving in details the grounds of objection by 17/05/2011

To place your notice here call the Kent Public Notice team on 01303 817044



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BIRTHS

BAKALA

Filip Michal born 25th April, 2011, weighing 6lb 8oz. Son to Monika Golabek and Michal Bakala in Larkfield.

announce the birth of Jacob Thomas

Mason, born

1st May, 2011

weighing 8lb 11oz

at Tunbridge Wells

Hospital. A little

brother for Harrison.

PAYNE

Meredith Evelyn Payne born 2nd May, 2011, at 2am, weighing 8lb 1oz, a beautiful baby daughter for James and Lauren Payne of Whitstable. A lovely little sister for Miles.

PFEFFER-KAY

Darren and Victoria Pfeffer-Kay celebrate the birth of their daughter Layla Joyce Goll on 29th April, 2011, weighing 6lb 9oz.

HAMMER

Ivy Susan born

on the 3rd May, 2011,

weighing 8lb 3oz.

Daughter to Craig

and Natasha of Folkestone.

MARTIN

Steve and Andrea

are proud to

a beautiful daughter.

WEBSTER

Peter and Hannah are delighted to announce the birth of their gorgeous daughter Sophie Lesley Webster born on 26th April, 2011.

DEATHS

BESSANT

Peggy Bessant, formerly Hammond, of Seasalter, Whitstable, passed away peacefully on 4th May, 2011. Will be sadly missed by family and friends.

FREEMAN

Mary Jane Freeman of Folkestone, died peacefully on the 9th May, 2011. Funeral service at Hawkinge on the 27th May at 12:30pm. Re-united at last with Ronald.

GAVIN

Winifred Barbara Eva Gavin passed away at home in Canterbury on 1st May, 2011. Will be sadly missed by her family and friends.



Gawk like
an Egyptian
at castle
collection

SEE PAGE 43



**KEEP 'EM
HANGING**

Our unbeatable look
at the best of what's
on at the movies

SEE PAGE 47

Your Weekend

**Don't try
this at
home**

**Get a kick out
of the Shaolin
Warriors'
spectacular
new show**



TURN TO PAGE 37

PLUS: Will the political independents ever have their day? - **talking point p38** How you can live in the style of the Tudors in one extraordinary house - **kent's finest property of the week p48** Discover why the Nissan Micra is still a little gem worth treasuring- **driving p55**



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THE INTERVIEW

FLYING through the air, balancing on sharp spears and performing unrelenting acrobatic stunts, the Shaolin Warriors are keen to keep the mysterious reputation of kung-fu alive and kicking.

"These guys are like demi-gods. They move so fast, when they flip, you can't even see their hands or head touch the ground. The speed and skill is ridiculous."

The Shaolin Warriors of China head to Tunbridge Wells under the guidance of Theatre Productions director Stephen Leatherland, who remains in awe of their skills.

He said: "They display so many disciplines. The show is highly choreographed – I would almost describe it as a kung-fu ballet because there are moments when 16 guys are all moving in unison, throwing themselves around and landing on one leg at the same time. It's breathtaking."

"They are choreographed in China by the show that helped create the opening ceremony to the Beijing Olympics, but we put a theatre-production touch on it to make the storyline a lot clearer for the audience."

"Creating magic is the name of the game."

The 22 warriors are all martial-arts experts, despite some of the performers being as young as 10.

They are also weapons specialists, with an amazing 18 different kinds used in the show.

Leatherland, himself an actor in the West End, said: "They cover all the disciplines they would learn at the Shaolin temple.

"They deal with traditional weapons like swords and spears and things that I don't even know, but it still look very dangerous to me."

Each of the warriors has been specially chosen by the Shaolin group, with most of them having won either a regional or national competition in their native China.

Leatherland said: "That is essentially how they came to light, in the performance sense. They are the cream of the kung-fu world."

"The main guy is called Cheng Penfei. He is like a human Catherine wheel. The human eye struggles to catch up with his movements. It's unbelievable."

The group has been performing since 2000 and received international acclaim following regular tours around the world.

This is the second time the warriors have come to England, embarking on a mammoth 66-date tour before heading off to Europe, America and finally Australia.

However, most of the warriors grew up in poor rural families in the Henan and Shandong

'Shaolin are demigods'

Joe Bill talks to show director about the Chinese warriors' latest tour



HARD AS NAILS: Breathtaking moves from the Shaolin Warriors' spectacular new tour

provinces, known as the heartland of the Chinese martial arts.

Their lives read like a traditional story of strength winning through against adversity, encouraged by their parents from the age of four to train and lift themselves far from their humble beginnings.

Leatherland, who started Theatre Productions 17 years ago, said: "I have employed many celebrities and obviously I treat them with great respect, but these guys are untouchable and they are great people, too, because of their Shaolin humility."

"I see them as demigods."

Featuring Buddhist meditation and rigorous martial-arts training, the show is an extravaganza of gorgeous scenery, beautiful lights, hundreds of costumes and an original soundtrack by a Chinese composer. The latest show details the journey of a young warrior, from initiation to becoming a Shaolin monk and achieving warrior status.

And as you can see within the show, the

training necessary to become a Shaolin Warrior is most definitely not for the faint-hearted.

A typical day for a youngster includes waking up at 5am to complete a full six hours' training alongside compulsory meditation and relaxation.

While on tour, the warriors continue with both their mental and physical training as they believe mental strength to be vital to continuing their successful and injury-free performances.

The director said: "There is a 45-minute warm-up before every show, as well as their own personal training every day."

"We had a journalist from a martial-arts magazine come to the rehearsal and he said he was astounded just by the warm-up, let alone the full production."

Popularity for Kung-fu boomed in the 70s and 80s with the films of Bruce Lee, but with 600,000 people having already witnessed the Shaolin Warriors show across the world, there is no question that the intrigue remains.

The intense and often unbelievable stunts are highlighted by the mind-boggling feats of endurance.

When asked which was the big move that wowed the most audiences, Leatherland said: "Personally, I'd suggest the 'five spears thrusting the body move', where a warrior is supported in the air with spears."

"Others include lying on blades, the nail bed, and breaking iron bars using the forehead alone, to name just a few."

Despite such activities, the warriors offer a family-oriented show aimed at all ages.

Leatherland said: "In particular, there's a teaching sequence with children from the audience being taught kung-fu live on stage."

But asked if he would be donning the traditional orange robes to take part as an understudy warrior, Leatherland answered: "I have stepped in at the last moment many times, but I don't think I will with this production."

"I value my life too much!"

■ **The Shaolin Warriors visit the Assembly Halls Theatre in Tunbridge Wells on Tuesday, June 7. Tickets cost £22.50 each, or a family ticket of four costs £62. Visit the website at www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk or phone 01892 530613.**

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TALKING POINT

Minor parties

LAST year more than a third of eligible voters decided they would rather stay at home than have their say on who should run the country. Of the 26 million people who did make the effort on general election day, an almost identical percentage voted in favour of a Conservative government led by David Cameron.

In contrast, not one single person voted for – nor had the opportunity to vote for – the Con-Lib Coalition we now find ourselves ruled by.

Had the millions of people who opted against using their vote instead put it to good use, the make-up of Parliament could look a lot different today. But despite growing disillusionment towards the three main parties, independent candidates and members of minor groups such as the Greens are still finding voter support hard to come by.

"People are more likely to not vote at all if they don't like any of the three main parties, and it's very frustrating," said Victor Webb, who made history this month as the first UK Independence Party member to be elected onto Tunbridge Wells council.

"All you hear when you knock on some people's doorsteps is how we're 'all the same', so we put in a lot of work to distinguish ourselves from the national politicians.

"We don't receive anywhere near the same level of publicity as the main parties do. I was supposed to be interviewed for a BBC television programme after the local elections but I was bumped in favour of a former Labour MP. That says it all really. It makes you wonder what you've got to do to get noticed."

Despite being a member of a relatively well-known party in UKIP, it still took Mr Webb nine years of local campaigning to win a seat on Tunbridge Wells council when he could arguably have done so a lot quicker had he been a supporter of Labour, the Conservatives or the Liberal Democrats.

In Liverpool, for example, an 18-year-old Labour candidate ousted Lib Dem peer and council leader Lord Mike Story from his seat at the local elections.

While the youngster may end up being a good representative for his ward, it is doubtful he would have achieved such early success had he put his name forward as an independent.

But according to Cllr Richard Lees – Kent county councillor representing Swanscombe and Greenhithe Residents' Association – not being associated with a main party is one of the biggest selling points of being an independent.

He said: "We provide a completely local and unhindered service, and that's the key thing. We're never tied down by a party's national policies. I don't have to stand up in County Hall and say the Government spending cuts are the best solution to tackling the deficit, like the Conservatives do. I can see the cuts are making life difficult at KCC and Dartford council – very difficult."

In addition to Cllr Lees' spot on the county council, the residents' association also has four members on Dartford council and all 20 on Swanscombe and Greenhithe town council.

Cllr Lees said he thought the bond between councillors and residents was key to the group's success.

He added: "People relate to us because we're helping our next-door neighbours or the school up the road. As a group we're also very accessible – everyone knows us and knows how to get hold of us. That's a big part of our success and our charm, and we really do listen to what's going on. We don't need to hold surgeries to find out what the problems are because we're living among them and already know."

The major political parties have an iron grip on voters' loyalties. Reporter STEVE KNIGHT investigates whether independent candidates and minor parties can ever break through into the mainstream, and if national politics should be kept out of local elections



OUT FOR THE COUNT:
Independent candidates and minor parties say they face a tough battle to get voters' attention in the run up to polling day

INDEPENDENTS' DAY – WILL IT EVER HAPPEN?

69

People relate to us because we're helping our neighbours or the school up the road. We don't need to hold surgeries to find out what the problems are because we already know.

CLLR RICHARD LEES

Another group with high hopes of success at the local elections was the Ashford Independent Party, but leader Cllr Peter Davison was left disappointed despite increasing its number of councillors from four to five.

He is one of a growing number of people who believe voters should place their trust in the hands of those who put local issues before party loyalties.

Cllr Davison said: "There is no place for national party politics in local government because the key issue should be to listen to local people."

"I think it's a fair assumption that more and more voters will turn to independent councillors, and the Localism Bill makes clear that people whose lives are touched by major decisions should have a say in those decisions."

"We shouldn't be giving so much power to egomaniacs on a power trip. Enough is enough."

A common misconception among some voters is that independent election candidates are somehow less qualified than those aligned with the main parties. But with teachers, nurses, surgeons, IT specialists and businessmen among those signed up to Ashford Independents, Cllr Davison is looking to dispel the stigma.

He said: "We're analysing what needs to be done in Ashford and putting in place people who

have the knowledge, and experience to suggest how we can do things better."

"Give us another four years and we will come back even stronger."

While both the Ashford Independent Party and the Swanscombe and Greenhithe Residents' Association have achieved modest success in recent years, it is clear that truly independent councillors are few and far between in Kent.

Cllr Lees said it would be beneficial for the county as a whole if like-minded individuals could come together and share best practice in an attempt to win voters over.

He added: "I would love to see more independent councillors. I've nothing against people who represent the main parties because a lot work hard in their communities, but they're always tethered to what Clegg and Cameron do at a national level and can't get away from that."

"I think that showed during the local elections when the Tories sent Baroness Warsi to Dartford and Labour had Ed Miliband in Gravesend to draw the voters out."

"We can't rely on those media stunts but we also don't need to because we have that close relationship with the local people, and we will continue to be successful because of that."

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KENT REMEMBERED

Pictures: OULDS, D C (LT)



BERTH: Memorabilia from HMS Formidable will be moving to Chatham Grammar School for Boys

New generation takes on a Formidable tale

Mathew Beech

mathew.beech@archant.co.uk

A NEW home has been found for the naval standard and other priceless items from 'the ship that launched herself'.

The HMS Formidable Association has offered priceless items from the World War Two aircraft carrier to Chatham Grammar School for Boys.

The group for the ship's veterans made the decision because membership is dwindling and they decided the school, which has close ties to Chatham Dockyard, the ideal place for the memorabilia.

Construction on the Illustrious-class aircraft carrier began on June 17, 1937, at the Harland & Wolff yard in Belfast.

Lady Kingsley Wood attended the launch ceremony with her husband, the then air minister Sir Kingsley Wood, on August 17, 1939.

Beneath the ship, dockers were working on the launching gear, when one of the wooden cradles supporting most of the carrier's 23,000 tonnes broke, causing the ship to start sliding down the slipway.

With great presence of mind, Lady Wood took the bottle of Empire wine and smashed it against the bow of the ship, following maritime lore which is meant to prevent an unlucky life at sea.

In the accident, shattered splinters of woods and twisted metal were flung into the crowd, causing one fatality and 22 injuries, although Formidable's hull was undamaged.



FLIGHT DECK: A Grumman Martlet taxiing along the flight deck of HMS Formidable

Following its eventful launch, HMS Formidable was commissioned on November 24, 1940, before she, and her 2,200 crew, were deployed to the Battle of Cape Matapan, near Crete, in March 1941.

In May 1941, she was hit by two 2,200lb bombs, putting the ship out of action for six months.

The following year, HMS Formidable travelled across the Pacific Ocean, serving in the Indian Ocean before returning back to the Mediterranean.

The ship provided air support in the critical North African Campaign for the Allies and also in the Italian Campaign, playing an important role in the invasion of Sicily in 1943.

Later the same year, she was then deployed to protect merchant convoys in the arctic and in November, sunk a German U-boat.

Towards the end of the war, she was involved in a series of operations of the coast of Norway, before finally entering service against Japanese forces in 1945 and surviving numerous kamikaze attacks.

Eight crew members were killed and a further 47 were injured in one attack, which saw a plane dive from a great height, crashing into the flight deck, starting a major fire on board.

Following the end of the war, the Royal Navy conducted a fleet review and it was discovered the damage suffered to HMS Formidable meant it was un-economical to repair her.

She was then put in reserve in 1947 but never saw action again before being sold off for scrap in 1953, before finally being pulled apart and scrapped in November, 1956.

The HMS Formidable Standard and other items will now be displayed at the Chatham Grammar School for Boys.

Colin Field, deputy headteacher at the school said: "We are currently planning an archive room in the school where we will be able to more openly share much of the history of our school with our community and people will be able to see the strong maritime links we have always enjoyed."

Keith Quilter, who served on Formidable, added: "I would like to add my complete ease at finding that the school appreciates the significance of the Standard to the remaining shipmates who served in Formidable."

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Photograph by Karl Grant, Camera Press London



Picture: PAUL JERREAT

Farmers' markets**Bridge**

THE market at The Red Lion pub on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month aims to give shoppers the opportunity to buy high-quality, nutritious and fresh local food and drink which contributes to their well-being and protects their environment.

Tunbridge Wells

THE market is located in the historic centre of Tunbridge Wells, The Pantiles, and sells local produce. It revives the tradition of an open-air market held there a few centuries ago and takes place on the first and third Saturdays of the month between the hours of 9am-2pm.

Hythe

HYTHE Farmers' Market was established in March, 2004, by popular demand from those who wanted good-quality local food. It is now located in the Methodist church hall and is open on the second and fourth Saturdays every month from 10am-noon.

Cliftonville

CLIFTONVILLE Farmers' Market was established in 2001 by the Cliftonville Residents' Association and is held on the last Sunday of the month on the Eastern Esplanade. It is run by volunteers, is self-funded, and has received several awards.

Dartford

DARTFORD Farmers' Market began in November, 2005, and has been running since then. The market is held in the pedestrian area of Dartford High Street and is open between 10am and 2pm on the third Friday of the month offering local produce.

Iwade

IWADE Village Hall first opened its farmers' market in February, 2009, and is open on the first Sunday of the month from 10am-1pm. It offers fresh seasonal local produce including organic meats and a range of other items such as bread, cakes and pastries.

■ For more farmers' markets, visit www.farmersmarkets.org.uk

Mediterranean delights the real star on show at JoJo's

UNTIL about 18 months ago, JoJo's restaurant was situated on the ground floor of a blue-fronted, three-storey house in the suburban outskirts of Whitstable.

In its rather unassuming surrounds it began to make a name for itself for its simple, but deliciously fresh Mediterranean dishes, served in mezze/tapas-style (it covers both), with an ethos of fresh, local and organic wherever possible.

Although unintended, its success meant that Nikki Billington and partner Paul Watson recently had to make the move to bigger premises – an old Spa supermarket building just around the corner in Tankerton, still surrounded by suburban houses, but with uninterrupted views of the sea. The building was gutted, refurbished with the resulting interior totally befitting the restaurant's ambitions.

The atmosphere is relaxed, though the drama in the kitchen is open to view. The interior is spacious and unaflected, with bare wood everywhere – floorboards, tables, chairs.

Windows looking out to sea, battered leather sofas by a fireplace and shelves packed with Nikki's cookbooks invite you to slow the pace right down.

But it is the food that is the star of the show.

Rave national reviews have propelled this restaurant firmly into the public's gaze – as **Kiki Case** discovers

FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

Nikki (above) and her partner Paul Watson have recently had to move JoJo's from its humble beginnings to bigger premises, such has been the success of their venture

Dishes are prepared there and then in front of your eyes, from a menu of delightful bites from Greece, Spain, Italy and even England.

Items change to allow for fresh seasonal ingredients and a blackboard shows a selection of daily specials. A range of cured meats is always present – spicy chorizo, Serrano ham, Fiocco di Spalla, all served with crustini and seasonal jelly, and all around £7.95, but with plentiful portions to share. Indeed, all the tapas dishes are generous – and your waiter or waitress will advise you to go easy on the ordering. There are delicious cooked dishes – the freshest calamari, chargrilled sardines, tender slices of lamb, Monkshill mutton koftas.

Vegetarians will be pleased too with the classic patatas bravas, deep fried courgette flowers, Greek salad and the scrumptious risotto balls, deep fried, and usually containing pea and mint or, sometimes, porcini. And the cheese board of tasty Spanish, Italian and English cheeses is delightful. Prices range from £3.95 to

£9.50, and with a BYOB policy, you can enjoy a delicious meal at a very reasonable price.

Nikki's cooking is deft, influenced by time spent travelling and working in Greece, Spain and Italy, having worked herself up to head chef from washer up and mussel bearder at the Whitstable Oyster Restaurant in the early 90s.

On her return home she decided to open Jojo's, with a plan to keep it small and not all-consuming. However, a couple of rave national press reviews brought it to the attention of food lovers and tables at the restaurant are now constantly in demand.

Booking is advisable, but reservations are taken no more than two weeks in advance.

There is a coffee shop, too, with homemade cakes and snacks, which is open everyday (except Monday, when the whole restaurant is closed) from 9am-5pm.

■ **JoJo's mezze, meat & fish, 2 Herne Bay Road, Tankerton, Whitstable, CT5 2LQ. Tel: 01227 274591. www.jojosrestaurant.co.uk.**

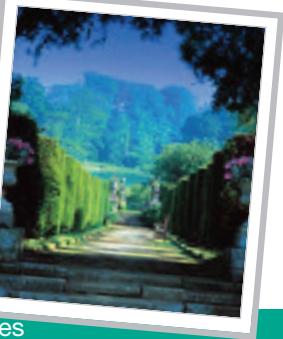
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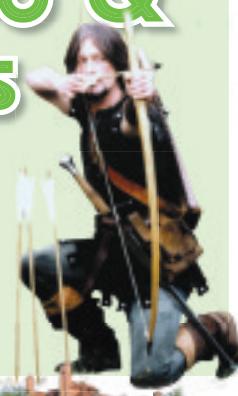
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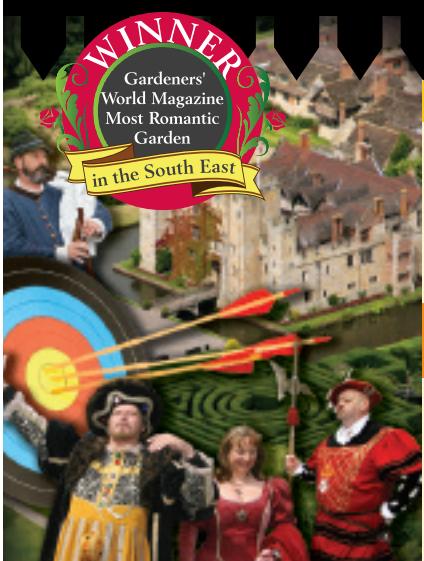
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Historic battle re-enactment Medieval fair

Badlesmere, Faversham

Saturday to Sunday, May 21-22
01227 375618

Starting at 8am both days

WITH Norse gods topping the film charts through Marvel's movie adaption of Thor, it is only appropriate that Vikings will be making an appearance at the Badlesmere Medieval Fair. The annual festivities

will show local history among side shows and stalls. The programme of events includes a Sunday boot fair, music from the Original Chill Billies and displays of archery and medieval warfare, combat through the ages and a representation of a Viking attack on the village of Badlesmere in 1011.

Dylan Hampshire, co-ordinating the historical displays, said: "It feels important to bring local history to life, and we wanted to show the Vikings as this year marks the 1,000th anniversary of the Danish capture of Canterbury."

There will be a choice of food, from hog roast through to Indian cuisine from Corrine's Creative Kitchens and the community-run barbecue, with drinks from the village hall or The Red Lion bar.

You will be able to peruse stalls hosting plants, arts and crafts and jewellery.

The fair is in aid of the Badlesmere Leas Preservation Society, which maintains the common next to The Red Lion.

Kim Sharrock, committee member, said: "Last year we had a lovely weekend and are glad to welcome back the re-enactors."



New attraction Adventure on the high seas

Hop Farm, Paddock Wood

01622 872 068
www.thehopfarm.co.uk

Open 9am to 5.30pm

GET ready for swashbuckling adventure at The Hop Farm family park's new attraction, Pirate Cove.

Children can now know what it was like to be Captain Jack Sparrow for the day by exploring the 40ft golden galleon and all that surrounds it.

Once they have finished exploring the ship from port to starboard, there's the chance to help Captain Fluff find her lost treasure by following clues around Pirate Cove.

If mini pirate visitors are clever enough to unscramble the treasure-trove password, they can get their hands on a special prize.

Gold hunters will love the chance to pan for gold at Pirate Cove and there's plenty of 'pieces of eight' to be found in the sand.

Weigh your gold and you could be in with a chance of swapping your booty for a sticker. The Hop Farm is one of Kent's largest attractions, featuring events for the family, including a children's driving school, outdoor adventure play area and animal farm.



Fun exhibition The ancient Egyptians

Chiddingstone Castle

Sunday, May 29
chiddingtoncastle.org.uk
Tickets: adults £7, children £5

CHIDDINGSTONE Castle is celebrating its amazing Egyptian collection with a festival including talks from an Egyptology society.

The whole family can join in interactive performances with the castle's own Egyptian Pharaoh, while children will have the opportunity to enjoy

Park proms Fireworks and music

Whatman River Park, Maidstone

Saturday, May 28, 7.30pm.
01622 758611

MAIDSTONE'S Proms In The Park is back for another year. International outfit Euregion from The Netherlands will be playing down by the river with the Maidstone Singers. They are sure to perform another memorable concert at the scenic Maidstone Riverstage.

The free gig will include music from some of the world's greatest bands and composer Andrew Lloyd Webber. There will also be traditional favourites from Elgar, Handel and Rossini.

Visitors are invited to come along to the Millennium Park early and have a picnic from 4pm to get into the summer atmosphere.

The proms will start at 7.30pm and be followed by a riverside fireworks display at about 9pm.

arts and crafts activities and face-painting.

Belly-dancing workshops will bring the essence of Egypt to life, while the food stalls give an insight into the culinary arts of the ancient Egyptians.

The festival is the ideal time to explore the castle's own Egyptian collection, which brings to life many aspects of ancient Egyptian culture from farming and writing to religion and perceptions of death and the afterlife.

The exhibition introduces us to Denys Eyre Bower, who, inspired by the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922, began amassing this fine collection, which includes Shabti figures from 150BC.



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Revealed:
Turner Contemporary Opens

16 April - 4 September 2011
Margate
Free admission



JMW Turner / Conrad Shawcross / Ellen Harvey
Douglas Gordon / Teresita Fernández
Russell Crotty / Daniel Buren

An international gallery for Kent

turnercontemporary.org

Kent
ON
SUNDAY

LOTTERY FUND

The Henry Moore
Foundation

TATE

INSTITUTE
FRANCIS

Photo: Richard Bryant / arcaidimages.com

www.kentnews.co.uk

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▪ Amazing firework display



EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

To be included on this page, please email
features@kosmedia.co.uk

Music quartet A foursome talent in town

The Bandstand, Broadstairs
 Saturday, May 28
 2.30pm-4pm
www.jamie-moore.com

POPULAR Broadstairs-based guitar-and-vocals duo of Veronica Cowper and Jamie Moore will be joined by two other musicians for a special concert at the bandstand in the town. Bass-player Andee Price will be joining the duo, along with violinist Frank Biddulph. Veronica Cowper (Makhalemele) was born in South Africa and rapidly established herself as an acclaimed vocalist on the jazz and pop-music scene. She has garnered rave reviews with a variety of artists. Canadian-born-but-UK-based Jamie Moore, meanwhile, is an exceptionally versatile guitarist and composer. And all this in the lovely setting of Broadstairs seafront!



Learn the art of thatching Craft project

Anglo-Saxon roundhouse
 Frith Wood, near Ashford
 Course starts on Monday, May 30

PEOPLE keen to learn the skills and crafts of ancient times can learn to thatch an Anglo-Saxon roundhouse in a stretch of beautiful woodland. The project is part of creating

a woodland education centre in Frith Wood near Ashford and has been granted National Lottery funding. The building is based on a similar hut at the Castell Henllys Iron Age settlement in Wales. Thatching is a growing industry again and an enjoyable craft to learn. Students will be led by a master thatcher and all aspects will be covered. The past few months has seen the roundhouse develop into what is now a sturdy frame, made from materials found in the local area. A one-acre area has been coppiced to

produce hazel for the wattled walls, and oak and ash have been used in the main frame. Clay and manure is ready for use on the walls, with Norfolk thatch cut for the roof. Many local people have helped with work, including British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and children. The thatching course starts on Monday, May 30. Places are limited, so booking is essential. To find out more information and to book, email touchwoodtrees@yahoo.com, or alternatively you can phone 07867 683169.



Bringing art to new audience Live in Ashford

Ashford venues
 May to October
 Revealing Ashford
www.revealingashford.co.uk

THIS summer will see the launch of one of the biggest arts events in Ashford's history. From May to October, national orchestras, international dancers, performance poets, film-makers, local bands and urban artists will take up residence in locations throughout the town as part of the Revealing Ashford programme.

Through a series of surprising and unusual events, the programme will uncover new arts experiences and emerging talent around the borough, often in locations not normally used for the arts, to attract new audiences.

Revealing Ashford is being led by Brighton-based creative director Anna Moulson. She said: "You can sense this is a really important year for Ashford arts. Clearly a lot of work has gone into raising the profile of the arts over the last few years, and there is a lot of talent here, so I am confident that we will start to see the fruits of this labour."

A new performance venue will soon open at St Mary's Church in the town and Stour Valley Arts is moving to the town centre with a new gallery. See www.revealingashford.co.uk.

Fancy walking the wire? Circus skills

**The Brook Theatre,
Chatham**
 Tuesday, May 31-Friday, June 3
 01634 338338

CHILDREN in Medway have the chance to learn the skills of the big top at a half-term event. Classes at the circus workshop include wire-walking, juggling and diabolo spinning. Medway Council's arts development team has organised the event at The Brook Theatre from Tuesday, May 31, to Friday, June 3. Children aged eight to 14 will be taught by professional circus performers from Dizzy O'Dare's People. As well as juggling, children will also be given the chance to learn acrobatics and hang upside down from a rig. Those taking part in the project will perform in a spectacular show at the end of the week. The fee for the series of four-day classes is £25 per child. To book a place, phone 01634 338338. The Circus Week runs each day from 10am to 4pm at The Brook Theatre, Old Town Hall, Chatham. Those who book will also receive a voucher allowing them £1 off the Kids' Cabaret Of Curiosities event being held on Sunday, May 29.

HOMES



■ Fremont with side shed. This is the most popular two-room cabin from Johnsons Garden Buildings. Prices from £1,995.



■ Eldorado. If it's a space-saver that you're looking for, this is the ideal model. Prices start from £3,449.

Need some extra space, maybe for a playroom or office? Then a stylish log cabin could be just what you're after...

JOHNSONS Garden Buildings prides itself on being one of the highest-quality suppliers of log cabins available in the UK and has become a name that people associate with quality and reliability.

Offering an extensive range of timber buildings to suit all budgets and requirements, it is also able to offer a bespoke service, meaning you can design your own building, made to measure.

All the log cabins are made from the highest-quality Siberian spruce timber with an interlocking system. This is far superior to the conventional panel options currently offered by other manufacturers.

Johnsons now has four display villages across Kent – Chestfield, Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks.

The sales team has many years of experience in the industry and will be more than happy to assist and answer all the questions you may have regarding your building.

Johnsons Garden Buildings offers free site surveys and would recommend this service for larger or bespoke cabins. Most wooden buildings can be installed without planning permission, but if you are at all concerned, speak to one of the members of the sales team.

Johnsons specialise in completing the whole project from start to finish; from initial design to the finished article, providing turnkey solutions and options such as climate control and oak flooring for the discerning customer.

Once the cabin has been erected, your building will come with a 12-month structural warranty for that extra peace of mind.

So, whether you're looking for a summer house, playroom, garage, office or just an extra room to chill out, Johnsons can help.

With prices starting at just £1,349 from a company that prides itself on quality, service and customer satisfaction, Johnsons Garden Buildings is definitely worth a visit.

■ Johnsons Garden Buildings
Sales hotline local rate: 0845 45 99 444
website: www.johnsonsgardenbuildings.co.uk

Log cabins

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features@kosmedia.co.uk



■ Vancouver (top left) is light and spacious with a fully-glazed front. Prices from £1,499.

■ Alamosa (above) comes with an integral porch, ideal for home-office use. Prices from £3,799.

■ Delta compact corner cabin (left) can fit in most gardens. Prices start at £1,459.

HOMES



Live in true Tudor style

Sandtiles
Saltwood

£675,000

■ ENTRANCE HALL ■ CLOAKROOM WITH TOILET ■ SPACIOUS L-SHAPED LIVING ROOM ■ DINING ROOM ■ INNER HALL ■ BUTLER'S PANTRY ■ KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM ■ THREE BEDROOMS (POSSIBILITY FOR FOURTH) ■ EN-SUITE BATHROOM ■ FAMILY BATHROOM ■ ATTRACTIVE STONE FIREPLACES ■ DETACHED DOUBLE GARAGE AND WORKSHOP ■ SELF-CONTAINED FLAT/STUDIO WITH KITCHENETTE AND BATHROOM ■ HALF-ACRE GARDEN WITH LARGE GREENHOUSE

THIS interesting Tudor-style home from the 1920s is now on the market. Sandtiles in Saltwood near Hythe is being marketed by local agency Champion and Co. The asking price for the property is £675,000 freehold.

It is a unique detached home, on the market for the first time in more than 30 years. The rear garden has a lovely outlook with glimpses of the sea.

The accommodation includes an entrance hall, cloakroom with toilet, spacious L-shaped living room, dining room, inner hall, butler's pantry and kitchen/breakfast room. There are three bedrooms (with the possibility of



reinstating a fourth), en-suite bathroom, family bathroom, burglar alarm, attractive stone fireplaces, detached double garage and workshop.

There is also a self-contained flat/studio

with kitchenette and bathroom. The half-acre garden is extremely well stocked and includes a large greenhouse.

The house has rendered elevations and is beamed and tile-hung under a tiled roof with

some flat-roof areas. It has lead-light double-glazing and gas central-heating. The studio above the garage could be used as an office if working from home.

Internally the property has many interesting

Kent's finest property of the week

More local properties @ **homes24.co.uk**
it's property for Kent



features of the arts and crafts style, including beamed rooms and oak throughout. There is ample parking for several vehicles and the gardens have many mature shrubs, trees and plants. The view across the lawn shows the sea in the distance.

Sandtiles is well located in a popular residential area close to the centre of Saltwood. There is a picturesque village green, shop, restaurant and public house.

Saltwood itself is about a mile or so from nearby Hythe, with its selection of supermarkets, shops, dentists, doctors and surgeries. The house is well placed for travelling. The M20 is about two miles away, placing Ashford and beyond within easy reach.

There is also a train station at Sandling, and the high-speed link can be caught from either Folkestone (five miles) or Ashford (12 miles) to St Pancras, which also offers Eurostar services to Paris and Brussels.

For the Continent the Channel Tunnel terminal on the outskirts of Folkestone is within easy reach by car, with Canterbury about 17 miles inland.

There are good local recreational facilities, including watersport clubs on the coast, cricket and tennis clubs at Hythe and fine golf courses.

The property has delightful views over adjoining school grounds, with the English Channel in the distance.

For further details, phone agent Champion and Company on 01303 260666



New
Kent
Venue!

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Major Five-Day June Sale

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Commencing 6th June - 10th June



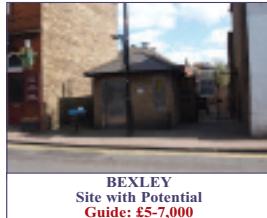
DARTFORD
Terraced House for Improvement
Guide: £90-100,000



MAIDSTONE
Semi for
Refurbishment
Guide: £145-155,000



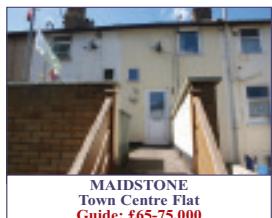
SEVENOAKS
Bungalow for Refurbishment
Guide: £165-175,000



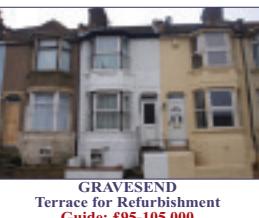
BEXLEY
Site with Potential
Guide: £5-7,000



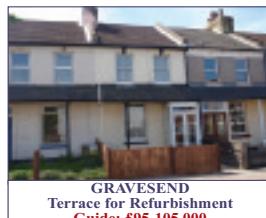
MAIDSTONE
Semi for Refurbishment
Guide: £200-220,000



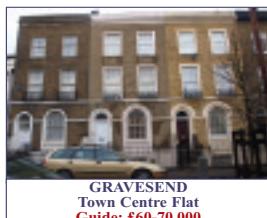
MAIDSTONE
Town Centre Flat
Guide: £65-75,000



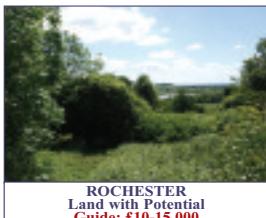
GRAVESEND
Terrace for Refurbishment
Guide: £95-105,000



GRAVESEND
Terrace for Refurbishment
Guide: £95-105,000



GRAVESEND
Town Centre Flat
Guide: £60-70,000



ROCHESTER
Land with Potential
Guide: £10-15,000



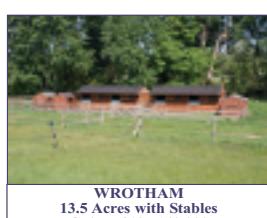
GILLINGHAM
Vacant Modern House
Guide: £75-80,000



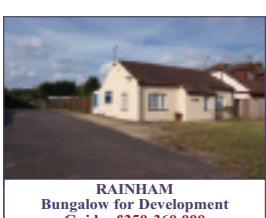
SITTINGBOURNE
Detached House for Modernisation
Guide: £150-155,000



GRAVESEND
House for Improvement
Guide: £115-120,000



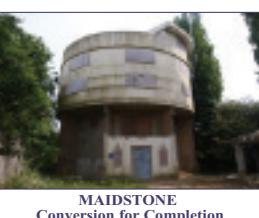
WROTHAM
13.5 Acres with Stables
Guide: £135,140,000



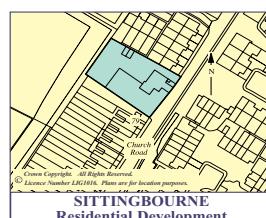
RAINHAM
Bungalow for Development
Guide: £350-360,000



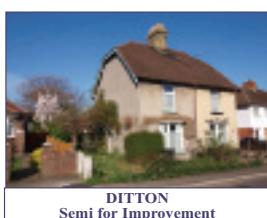
ROCHESTER
Detached House for Refurbishment
Guide: £250-260,000



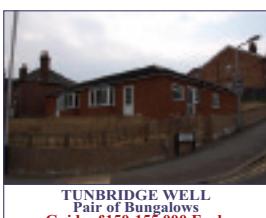
MAIDSTONE
Conversion for Completion
Guide: £250-260,000



SITTINGBOURNE
Residential Development
Guide: £285-295,000



DITTON
Semi for Improvement
Guide: £140-150,000



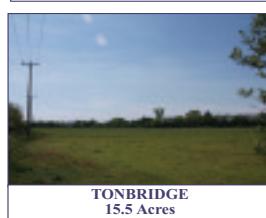
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Pair of Bungalows
Guide: £150-155,000 Each



SITTINGBOURNE
Detached House for Modernisation
Guide: £150-155,000



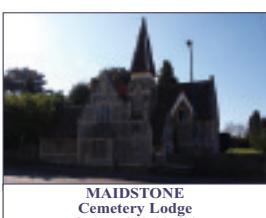
GREENHITHE
Terraced House for Improvement
Guide: £95-105,000



TONBRIDGE
15.5 Acres
Guide: £90-95,000



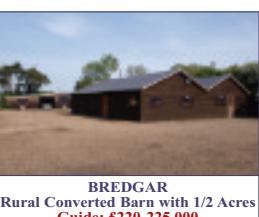
SITTINGBOURNE
Semi for Refurbishment
Guide: £90-100,000



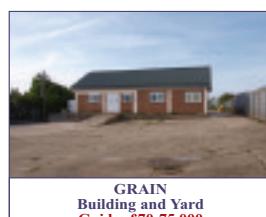
MAIDSTONE
Cemetery Lodge
Guide: £20-30,000



MINSTER, SHEERNESS
Former Pub for Conversion to House
Guide: £150-175,000



BREDGAR
Rural Converted Barn with 1/2 Acres
Guide: £220-225,000



GRAIN
Building and Yard
Guide: £70-75,000



SITTINGBOURNE
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Guide: £380-400,000

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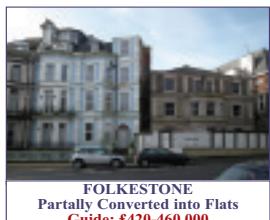
AUCTION

New
Kent
Venue!

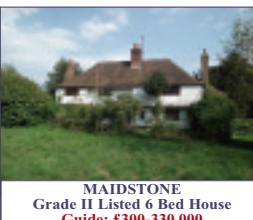
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Commencing 6th June - 10th June



FOLKESTONE
Partially Converted into Flats
Guide: £420-460,000



MAIDSTONE
Grade II Listed 6 Bed House
Guide: £300-330,000



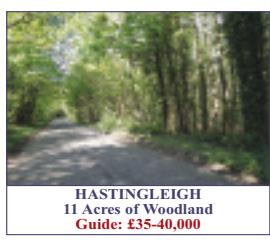
MAIDSTONE
Grade II Listed Gate House
Guide: £120-130,000



ASHFORD
3 Bed Semi-Detached House
Guide: £120-125,000



CANTERBURY
Oast House Converted into 3 Houses
Guide: £540-560,000



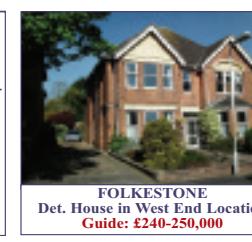
HASTINGLEIGH
11 Acres of Woodland
Guide: £35-40,000



FOLKESTONE
2 Bed Garden
Flat for
Improvement
Guide:
£60-65,000



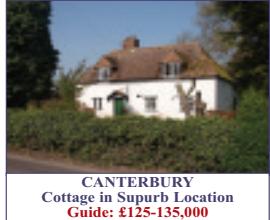
LYDD
2 Bed Semi for
Improvement
Guide:
£115-120,000



FOLKESTONE
Det. House in West End Location
Guide: £240-250,000



HERSDEN
Commercial Investment, £10,000 pa.
Guide: £100-110,000



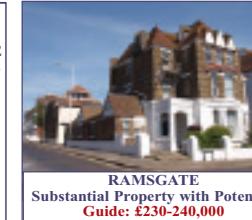
CANTERBURY
Cottage in Supurb Location
Guide: £125-135,000



MARGATE
Three Bed
House
Guide:
£75-80,000



FOLKESTONE
Two Shops and
Two
Maisonettes
Guide:
£100-110,000



RAMSGATE
Substantial Property with Potential
Guide: £230-240,000



WHITSTABLE
Site with
Lapsed
Planning
Guide:
£155-165,000



RAMSGATE
Planning Permission for 5 Flats
Guide: £75-85,000



BIRCHINTON
Land with Potential
Guide: £120-130,000



FOLKESTONE
Development Site
Guide: £70-80,000



RAMSGATE
Masionette for
Refurbishment
Guide:
£45-50,000



RAMSGATE
Residential Investment of 4 Flats
Guide: £160-170,000



FAVERSHAM
Development for 4 Large Dwellings
Guide: £425-475,000



FOLKESTONE
3 Flats for
Investment
Guide:
£100-110,000



RUCKINGE
6 Acres Grazing Land
Guide: £30-40,000



POSTLING
5 Light Ind Buildings and Paddock
Guide: £90-100,000



ASH, CANTERBURY
Detached Chalet Bungalow
Guide: £150-170,000



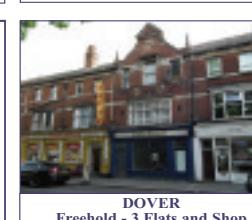
WHITSTABLE
Garages and Land with Potential
Guide: £20-25,000



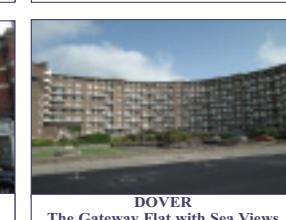
THAMESMEAD
End Terrace House
Guide: £115-120,000



CHATHAM
Freehold -
3 Flats
Guide:
£120-125,000



DOVER
Freehold - 3 Flats and Shop
Guide: £90-95,000



DOVER
The Gateway Flat with Sea Views
Guide: £120-125,000

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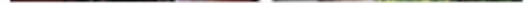
Foresters

xl.com



Hurst Green

The release of an attractive family house. The first, we believe, to be sold on this popular development since new. Woodlands, 7 luxury homes backs directly onto magnificent countryside with stunning views towards The Downs and is set back from the road screened by a bespoke apartment complex. Only a short drive from main line station at Robertsbridge linking London & the south coast. Grand kitchen, open plan with living room which itself is open plan with conservatory bringing the garden into the house. Separate sitting room & study, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garage and a lot of quality extras. Priced to sell. Visit our website for many images, new instructions, sole agents Offers £425,000 forestersxl.com



Burwash

Entering the market shortly. A comfortable, tranquil atmosphere throughout this late Victorian family home. Magnificent views to the front over the Rother Valley and terrific views to the rear across the Dudwell Valley towards National Trust land and Batemans. 3 bedrooms, large family bathroom, lounge opening onto large terrace, sep dining room. Large old fashioned kitchen with central Stanley cooker serving central heating and hot water. Utility & cloakroom, good garage, workshop, parking and lovely gardens. There's no rush so 'chill out' and consider this beautiful old fashioned home. Offers £425,00 new instructions, sole agents forestersxl.com

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Charming Victorian family home with ample parking for several vehicles and huge garden in excess of 200ft with its own bridge over to a huge meadow, co-owned by several neighbours. A private, protected area, ideal for kids, dogs etc. Spacious family accommodation, easy access of village stores and main line station visit our website and remember that fantastic meadow, sole agents offers invited £385,000 forestersxl.com

Etchingham

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£499,950



HEATHFIELD
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RUSHLAKE GREEN
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HEATHFIELD
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- Skoda goes that extra green mile
- New Volvo i40 aimed at the Mondeo sector



Addition of stop/start technology eco boost for Peugeot

Driving

carsforkent.co.uk

A white Nissan Micra supermini is shown driving on a city street. The car is in sharp focus in the foreground, while the background is blurred to emphasize motion. The car has a license plate that reads "AA-080-XX".

Micra comes full circle

Nissan's latest supermini returns to functionality of the 1980s

SEE PAGE 55 FOR ROAD TEST



Tunbridge Wells *NETWORK Q*



CAR HIRE

COMPREHENSIVE
COVERCOVER WHILST
DRIVING IN EUROPEPARTS AND
LABOURUNLIMITED
CLAIMS LIABILITY

CORSA

10	10	CORSA 1.3CDTi 75PS ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, ALLOYS, EX DEMO, UNDER 8,000 MILES, SILVER LIGHTNING	£9,295.00
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10	10	CORSA 1.4 SE 5 DR AIR CON, E/PACK, ALLOYS, AUTO LIGHTS/WIPERS, UNDER 14K, STAR SILVER	£8,995.00
10	10	CORSA 1.2 SXI 3 DR AIR CON, VXR STYLE PACK, UNDER 5,000 MILES, EX DEMO, STAR SILVER	£8,995.00
10	60	CORSA 1.2 ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, SILVER LAKE	£8,850.00
10	60	CORSA 1.2 ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£8,850.00
10	10	CORSA 1.2 ENERGY 3 DR A/C, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 6,000 MILES, METRO	£8,650.00
09	09	CORSA 1.3CDTi 90PS DESIGN 5 DR AIR CON, ALLOYS, E/PACK, UNDER 28,000 MILES, STAR SILVER	£8,650.00
10	60	CORSA 1.0 12V ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, ORIENTAL BLUE	£8,250.00
10	60	CORSA 1.0 12V ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, METRO	£8,250.00
10	60	CORSA 1.0 12V ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£8,250.00
10	60	CORSA 1.0 12V ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, RAINBOW BLUE	£8,250.00
10	10	CORSA 1.2 ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 8,000 MILES, STAR SILVER	£7,995.00
10	10	CORSA 1.0 12V ENERGY 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 8,000 MILES, SILVER LIGHTNING	£7,995.00
10	10	CORSA 1.0 12V S 3 DR, PRE REGISTERED, UNDER 200 MILES, SILVER LIGHTNING	£7,695.00
10	10	CORSA 1.0 12V S 3 DR, PRE REGISTERED, UNDER 200 MILES, SILVER LIGHTNING	£7,695.00
08	58	CORSA 1.0 12V ACTIVE 5 DR AIR CON, ALLOYS, UNDER 7,000 MILES, FLAME RED	£7,650.00
07	07	CORSA 1.2 CLUB 3 DR A/C, E/WINDOWS, PAS, CDL, UNDER 20,000 MILES, STAR SILVER	£6,650.00
06	56	CORSA 1.0 12V LIFE 3 DR A/C, ONE OWNER, UNDER 18,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£5,695.00
05	05	CORSA 1.3CDTi BREEZE 5 DR AIR CON, UNDER 47,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£4,850.00

TIGRA / TWINTOP

09	09	TIGRA 1.8 ROUGE 2 DR A/C, UNDER 5,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£9,995.00
09	09	TIGRA 1.4 LIFE 2 DR A/C, HALF LEATHER, UNDER 27,000 MILES, STAR SILVER	£9,450.00
07	07	TIGRA TWINTOP 1.9CDTi 150 SPORT 2 DR, AIR CON, NON NETWORK-Q CAR, UNDER 73,000 MILES, AIR BLUE	£7,995.00

NEW ASTRA

10	10	ASTRA 1.4 TURBO 140PS SRI 5 DR, SAT NAV, LEATHER PACK, AIR CON, ALLOYS, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£13,295.00
10	10	ASTRA 1.6 EXCLUSIVE 5 DR AIR CON, 17" ALLOYS, EX DEMONSTRATOR, ICEBERG SILVER	£12,695.00
10	10	ASTRA 1.4 TURBO 140PS SRI 5 DR, AIR CON, 18" ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, UNDER 15,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£12,495.00
10	10	ASTRA 1.4 EXCLUSIVE 5 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 8,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£10,995.00

ASTRA

10	10	ASTRA 1.6VVT SRI 3 DR SPORT HATCH, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 9,000 MILES, SOVEREIGN SILVER	£12,495.00
10	10	ASTRA 1.4 ACTIVE 5 DR A/C, ALLOYS, EX DEMO, UNDER 10,000 MILES, METRO	£8,995.00
09	59	ASTRA 1.4 ACTIVE PLUS 5 DR A/C, ALLOYS, EX DEMO, UNDER 10,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£8,650.00
09	59	ASTRA 1.8 LIFE 5 DR AUTOMATIC, AIR CON, EX DEMO, UNDER 10,000 MILES, SOVEREIGN SILVER	£8,495.00
07	07	ASTRA 1.8 DESIGN 5 DR AUTOMATIC, AIR CON, HALF LEATHER, UNDER 20,000 MILES SILVER LIGHTNING	£6,995.00
08	08	ASTRA 1.4 SXI 5 DR A/C, ALLOYS, UNDER 37,000 MILES, SILVER LIGHTNING	£6,995.00

ZAFIRA / MERIVA

10	60	NEW MERIVA 1.4 TURBO 120 EXCLUSIVE 5DR, AIR CON, DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, TECHNICAL GREY	£13,995.00
10	10	NEW MERIVA 1.4 TURBO 120 SE 5DR, AIR CON, UNDER 14,000 MILES, TECHNICAL GREY	£11,995.00
08	08	ZAFIRA 1.9CDTi 150PS E4 SRI 5 DR A/C, ALLOYS, E/PACK, UNDER 36,000 MILES, ULTRA BLUE	£9,650.00
08	08	ZAFIRA 1.6 BREEZE 5 DR A/C, UNDER 10,000 MILES, STAR SILVER	£8,450.00

VECTRA

08	08	VECTRA 2.2 ELITE 4 DR A/C, LEATHER PACK, EXEC PACK, UNDER 8,000 MILES, ULTRA BLUE	£6,950.00
08	57	VECTRA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE 5 DR A/C, ALLOYS, E/PACK, CRUISE CONTROL, SILVER LIGHTNING	£6,450.00
07	07	VECTRA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE 5 DR A/C, ALLOYS, E/PACK, CRUISE CONTROL, PEACOCK	£5,495.00

INSIGNIA

10	10	INSIGNIA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE 5 DR A/C, PLUS PACK, ALLOYS, FRONT FOGS, UNDER 7,000 MILES, BLACK SAPPHIRE	£13,495.00
10	10	INSIGNIA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE 5 DR A/C, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 7,000 MILES, TECHNICAL GREY	£12,995.00
10	10	INSIGNIA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE 5 DR A/C, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 7,000 MILES, SOVEREIGN SILVER	£12,995.00

INSIGNIA SPORTS TOURER

09	59	INSIGNIA 2.0CDTi 160PS SRI AUTO, AIR CON, SPORTS TOURER, EX DEMONSTRATOR, OLYMPIC WHITE	£14,995.00
09	09	INSIGNIA 2.0CDTi 160PS SRI 5 DR AIR CON, SPORTS TOURER, EX DEMONSTRATOR, SOVEREIGN SILVER	£13,995.00

MPV

11	11	CAPTIVA 2.0VCDi LT 5 DR AUTOMATIC 7ST, A/C, HALF LEATHER, PRE REG, 5YR WARRANTY, ICE SILVER	£19,995.00
11	11	ORLANDO 2.0VCDi LTZ 5 DR AUTO, AIR CON, UNDER 100 MILES EX DEMONSTRATOR, CARBON FLASH BLACK	£18,995.00
09	09	CAPTIVA 2.0VCDi LTZ 5 DR 7 SEAT 4 X 4, AIR CON, LEATHER PACK, E/PACK, UNDER 18,000 MILES, ICE SILVER	£16,995.00

OTHER MAKES

06	60	NEW MERIVA 1.4 TURBO 120 EXCLUSIVE 5DR, AIR CON, DEMO, UNDER 5,000 MILES, TECHNICAL GREY	£13,995.00
07	07	CAPTIVA 2.0VCDi LTZ 5 DR 7 ST AUTO, 4 X 4, AIR CON, LEATHER PACK, E/PACK, UNDER 56,000 MILES, VELVET GREEN	£13,995.00
10	59	VIVARO 2.0CDTi 90 COMBI MINIBUS SWB, 8 SEATER, EXECUTIVE FAMILY BUS, UNDER 25,000 MILES, SILVER, NO VAT	£12,995.00
08	08	ZAFIRA 1.9CDTi 150PS E4 SRI 5 DR A/C, ALLOYS, E/PACK, UNDER 36,000 MILES, ULTRA BLUE	£9,650.00
07	07	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC 1.5DCi EXTREME, 5 DR, AIR CON, UNDER 45,000 MILES, SILVER	£6,550.00

AUTOMATICS

11	11	CAPTIVA 2.0VCDi LT 5 DR AUTOMATIC 7ST, A/C, HALF LEATHER, PRE REG, 5YR WARRANTY, ICE SILVER	£19,995.00
11	11	ORLANDO 2.0VCDi LTZ 5 DR AUTO, AIR CON, UNDER 100 MILES EX DEMONSTRATOR, CARBON FLASH BLACK	£18,995.00
09	59	INSIGNIA 2.0CDTi 160PS SRI AUTO, AIR CON, SPORTS TOURER, EX DEMONSTRATOR, SOVEREIGN SILVER	£14,995.00
07	07	CAPTIVA 2.0VCDi LTZ 5 DR 7 ST AUTO, 4 X 4, AIR CON, LEATHER PACK, E/PACK, UNDER 56,000 MILES, VELVET GREEN	£13,995.00

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PLUS VAT

10	59	VIVARO 2.0CDTi 90 COMBI MINIBUS SWB, AIR CON, ELECTRIC PACK, UNDER 25,000 MILES, SILVER, NO VAT	£12,995.00
10	60	VIVARO 2.0CDTi 115 SPORTIVE VAN, SWB, AIR CON, ELECTRIC PACK, UNDER 2,000 MILES, SILVER	£12,650.00
10	10	VIVARO 2.0CDTi 2.7T SWB VAN, UNDER 10,000 MILES, WHITE	£10,950.00
10	10	VIVARO 2.0CDTi 2.7T SWB VAN, UNDER 25,000 MILES, WHITE	£10,950.00
10	10	ASTRAVAN 1.7CDTi SPORTIVE 3 DR AIR CON, EX DEMO, UNDER 1,000 MILES, SOVEREIGN SILVER	£9,995.00
10	10	COMBO 1.7CDTi 1700 VAN, NEAR SIDE LOAD DOOR, PRE REG DELIVERY MILEAGE, GLACIER WHITE	£8,995.00
10	10	COMBO 1.7CDTi 1700 VAN, GLAZED DOORS, PRE REG DELIVERY MILEAGE, GLACIER WHITE	£8,750.00
10	10	COMBO 1.7CDTi 1700 VAN, GLAZED DOORS, PRE REG DELIVERY MILEAGE, GLACIER WHITE	£8,750.00
09	59	COMBO 1.3CDTi 1700 VAN, NEAR SIDE LOAD DOOR, EX PART DELIVERY VAN, GLACIER WHITE	£7,495.00

SPARK / MATIZ

11	11	SPARK 1.0 LS 5 DR AIR CON, PRE GER DELIVERY MILEAGE, 5 YEAR WARRANTY, MOROCCAN BLUE	£7,380.00
11	11	SPARK 1.0 LS 5 DR AIR CON, PRE GER DELIVERY MILEAGE, 5 YEAR WARRANTY, ICE SILVER	£7,380.00
11	11	SPARK 1.2 LT 5 DR AIR CON, PRE GER DELIVERY MILEAGE, 5 YEAR WARRANTY, MISTY LAKE	£7,380.00
10	60	SPARK 1.2 LT 5 DR AIR CON, REAR PARK ASSIST, EX DEMONSTRATOR, OLYMPIC WHITE	£7,250.00
10	60	SPARK 1.2 LT 5 DR AIR CON, REAR PARK ASSIST, EX DEMONSTRATOR, GREEN COCKTAIL	£6,995.00
10	60	SPARK 1.0 LS 5 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, CARBON FLASH BLACK	£6,450.00
05	05	MATIZ 1.0 SE 5 DR, NON NETWORK-Q, UNDER 27,000 MILES, POLY SILVER	£3,495.00
05	05	MATIZ 0.8 SE PLUS 5 DR, NON NETWORK-Q, UNDER 52,000 MILES, COSMOS BLACK	£3,250.00

AVEO / KALOS

11	11	AVEO 1.4 LT 5 DR AUTO, AIR CON, DEMONSTRATOR, DELIVERY MILEAGE, CARBON FLASH BLACK	£9,995.00
10	60	AVEO 1.4 LT 5 DR AUTOMATIC AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, POLY SILVER	£8,650.00
10	60	AVEO 1.4 LT 5 DR AUTOMATIC AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, RUBY RED	£8,650.00
10	60	AVEO 1.4 LT 5 DR AIR CON, EX DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 5,000 MILES, CARBON FLASH BLACK	£7,995.00

CRUZE

10	60	CRUZE 2.0VCDi LT CS 4 DR A/C, DEMONSTRATOR, UNDER 10,000 MILES, MOROCCAN BLUE	£11,995.00

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MOTORING

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Micra is still a little gem

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

NISSAN'S original Micra arrived in the UK in 1983, not with a bang, but more of a whimper.

The all-new supermini model was all but ignored: the styling was bland and Japanese marques had an unremarkable record in that sector.

But over nearly 10 years' production, it won people over for its spaciousness, easy driving and reliability. It was a driving school favourite and, 20 years after its demise, first generation Micras are still common on UK roads.

Evidence of a slow burn is that it nearly made the UK sales top ten in 1990 – just two years before it was replaced.

But Nissan was careful next time to make the Micra more eye-catching; if ever a car could be called cuddly, then the Mark 2 of 1992 was just that. A six-year-old could have penned it, with Nissan appearing to issue a challenge to the motor market: "Just try ignoring that then, mate."

Being the first Micra built at the marque's Sunderland plant also helped UK buyers fall for the little car and when its replacement arrived in 2002, the visual attention to detail was even more evident.

This Mark 3 was so radically different to anything in its class that Nissan's marketing used a lexicon of new words to describe its characteristics, while the retro interior was almost a work of art.

Why the history lesson? Well Nissan has come full circle with the Mark 4 Micra launched here last year.

It signals a return to the functionality of the original 1980s car, while its UK link has also been severed: this car, like its Pixo city car sister, is built in India, leaving the production line slot at Sunderland to be commanded by the thrusting all-new Juke crossover supermini.

The story being told here is: as we all down-

NISSAN MICRA 1.2 TEKNA: PRICE £12,350



EASY GOING:

Although the new Nissan Micra rides well and is good value for money, but don't expect rally-like performance

size, one supermini model cannot suit everyone in a sector where sales have mushroomed.

The latest Micra has become Nissan's default supermini option, while the butch-looking Juke goes for glamour sales against the likes of the BMW Mini, Fiat 500 and Citroën DS3.

So I climbed into the new Micra with a sense of déjà vu: the new car is roomy, incredibly easy to live with, rides well on increasingly patchy UK roads and will woo your wallet – just don't expect it to win your heart.

Like its Mark 1 forerunner, it does what it says on the tin, being cheap to buy (from £9,250) and taking you from A to B efficiently.

You don't even have to think hard about which version to buy, since there is just the one five-door hatch body and all five variants come with the same low emission 80PS (79bhp) 1.2-litre petrol engine, available with a

FACT FILE

Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£20/year
Best rival:	Ford Fiesta
Kent dealers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Batleys, Canterbury 0845 058 9747 ■ KAP, Ashford 0844 371 7964 Folkestone 0844 249 3176 ■ Motorline, Tunbridge Wells 0844 371 7952 Dartford 0844 371 7946

five-speed manual 'box able to average in the mid-50s for mpg, or a CVT auto that is only moderately more thirsty.

The engine may be thrifty and willing, but its three-cylinder layout makes it typically raucous at times if you try to wring out more revs.

But the conservative styling, smooth cruising from the high top gear, all-round economy, light and easy steering, a chassis set up for comfort, plus decent spec at a good price mean would-be buyers are not those looking for rally-like performance and handling.

The dashboard is quite funky, but the quality of the materials used does rather reflect the car's modest pricing. Rear space, particularly headroom, marks a big improvement over its predecessor though and the boot and overall load space with seats down is impressive for this class, again marking a return to the past.

First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



Join the Q for new Audi

AUDI has confirmed that order books will open in June for its new Q3 compact SUV, priced from £24,560.

It is the third in the sharply-styled Q-model series, but the first to offer a front-wheel drive economy variant.

This will deliver the possibility of averaging more than 50mpg by using a 2.0-litre TDI 140PS (138bhp) diesel.



Skoda worthy of green label

SKODA has recorded a remarkable 127.8mpg with its eco-friendly Skoda Greenline II.

Austrian economy driving specialist Gerhard Plattner, covered 1,246 miles from Austria to Denmark on a single 45-litre tank of fuel, bettering the 83.1mpg official combined fuel figure for the 74bhp 1.2-litre diesel hatchback, which is priced at £13,685.



i40 saloon set to be unveiled

HYUNDAI has unveiled the saloon version of its upcoming i40 contender in the 'D' or so-called Mondeo sector.

The car's debut at the Barcelona Motor Show followed the global debut of the i40 estate at Geneva in March.

The i40 arrives in the fourth quarter of 2011, backed by Hyundai's five-year unlimited warranty.

PRICES
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NEARLY NEW 2011/10 60 59 REG CARS

2011 (11) NISSAN OASHOAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 650 miles	£21,995
2010 (10) NISSAN OASHOAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 9000 miles	£19,995
2010 (10) NISSAN OASHOAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles	£19,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 900 miles	£15,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELITE CDTi TURBO MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles	£15,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTi TD MPV AUTO, GREY, 500 miles	£15,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles	£14,995
2010 (10) FORD FIESTA MINI COOPER 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1700 miles	£14,995
2010 (09) VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 5DR HATCH AUTO, MOUNTAIN GREY, 1610 miles	£13,995
2011 (11) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1000 miles	£11,995
2010 (11) NISSAN NOTE KAZEN 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 3000 miles	£11,995
2010 (10) NISSAN CUBE KAIZEN 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 3000 miles	£11,995
2010 (09) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles	£11,995
2010 (09) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 750 miles	£11,995
2010 (09) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 750 miles	£11,995
2010 (08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, RED, 600 miles	£11,995
2010 (08) FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles	£10,995
2010 (08) TOYOTA YARIS TR VVT-i SENSO DRIVE AUTO, GREY, 960 miles	£10,995
2011 (07) VAUXHALL AGILA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 650 miles	£10,995
2010 (07) VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1200 miles	£10,995
2010 (10) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMAN BLUE, 1000 miles	£9,995
2010 (09) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles	£9,995
2010 (10) KIA PICANTO STRIKE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles	£9,995
2010 (10) FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles	£9,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 8000 miles	£9,995
2010 (10) HYUNDAI i10 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles	£7,995
2010 (10) KIA PICANTO STRIKE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS COUPES

2009 (59) BMW 3 SERIES 230i SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles	£19,995
2007 (57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 16V CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£9,995
2006 (56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£9,995
2007 (07) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£9,995
2006 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles	£7,995

NEW FIESTA

2010 (60) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles	£11,995
2009 (58) FORD FIESTA STYLE PLUS 3DR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 3000 miles	£8,995

FOCUS Hatch & SALOON

2008 (08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 3000 miles	£9,995
2008 (08) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles	£9,995
2008 (08) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, VISION BLUE, 8000 miles	£7,995
2005 (55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles	£5,995

FOCUS ESTATES

2008 (08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1250 miles	£9,995
2007 (57) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR ESTATE AUTO, SEA GREY, 12000 miles	£5,995

RENAULT SCENIC

2009 (59) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles	£15,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 75TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles	£8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles	£8,995
2005 (57) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles	£6,995
2005 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles	£6,995

RENAULT

2010 (59) RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION VVT MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£11,995
2010 (10) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMAN BLUE, 1000 miles	£9,995
2010 (10) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles	£9,995
2010 (10) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, BLACK, 1800 miles	£9,995
2007 (07) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 16V CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£9,995

RENAULT SCENIC

2009 (59) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles	£15,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 75TR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles	£8,995
2007 (07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles	£8,995
2005 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles	£6,995
2005 (57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles	£6,995

CHEVROLET

2009 (09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles	£6,995
2009 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£6,995
2009 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles	£6,995

CHEVROLET

2009 (09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles	£6,995
2009 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles	£6,995
2009 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 21000 miles	£6,995

CHEVROLET

2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 10000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 13000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 16000 miles	£6,995

CHEVROLET

2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 10000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 13000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 16000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 19000 miles	£6,995

CHEVROLET

2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 13000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 16000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 19000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 22000 miles	£6,995

CHEVROLET

2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 16000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 19000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 22000 miles	£6,995
2008 (08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 25000 miles	£6,995

CHEVROLET

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MOTORING

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Classy 308 joins stop/start revolution

1ST DRIVE

BY SAM DAVISON editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PEUGEOT has put down a marker in the eco motoring sector as part of a comprehensive facelift for its 308 family hatchback, arriving at dealers now.

The 308 is now offered with the French marque's slick e-HDi stop and start technology and partnered with a manual gearbox – e-HDi made its debut just a few weeks ago on Peugeot's classy new 508 company car motor, but minus the clutch pedal.

That version does not really wow the driver, though the sums add up for company drivers.

The six-speed manual version fitted to the 308, on the other hand, puts the driver more in touch. It underlines its value too with a running total of how long the engine is switched off while sitting at the lights, or simply crawling in stop-go traffic. I was staggered to see 10 minutes logged on a journey that took 30 minutes.

Of course, it would be even better if it could tell you how much fuel it saved in that time, but this is probably a tall order – maybe next time though, judging by technical strides now being made across the motor industry.

But are stop/start systems for everyone? Only if they come bundled as part of the bargain. If



you don't do much city driving and must pay extra – it starts at around £900 with the 308 – then maybe it's not for you.

The revitalised 308 range (from £15,245) does deserve careful consideration though. Peugeot calls it 'new 308', which is a bit over the top since the car was launched in 2007, and then as a comprehensive re-work of its 307 predecessor. There's nothing wrong in that when the 308's two arch-rivals, the Ford Focus and VW Golf, have also virtually skipped a generation too in recent years.

I mention it though because, while 307 styling could be seen in the 308, the car was a revelation inside and on the road; Peugeot reset the bar very high on interior design and quality

at this level, while the 308's on-road standards were a notch higher than its predecessor's.

The pièce de résistance came with the coupe convertible 308CC spin-off two years later, offering a leather dashboard option that would not have disgraced a car costing twice the price.

For the facelift, there are tweaks to the cabin but the main points of difference are meaner and cleaner engines with lower road tax, a 25-kilo cut in weight across the range and exterior styling touches that make the car sleeker and smarter, paying dividends with a segment-beating 0.28 drag coefficient on fuel economy versions.

Most noticeable cosmetically though is a toning down of the Peugeot 'gaping maw'

grille, noticeably absent – thank heavens – from the elegant 508. The 308 front end now looks cleaner and fresher, while LED running lights give a more upmarket look.

There is the usual wide choice of engines with Peugeot's legendary diesels expected to take two-thirds of sales, augmented in July by a road tax beating, low-emission eco diesel model, the Oxygo. The five-door hatch will continue to dominate body choice, with the CC (from £21,295) taking around two per cent of sales and the SW (estate) taking about eight. However, the latter (from £16,245) continues to impress with its mix of capacity and class, plus the brilliant full-length glass roof fitted to all but the entry models.

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IS Series prices start from £24,870 OTR. Model shown IS 200d Advance costing £25,605 OTR including optional metallic paint at £610. Price correct at time of going to press and includes VAT, delivery, number plates, full tank of fuel, one year's road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. [†]9.9% APR Representative over 3 years on Lexus Connect Contract Purchase available on IS 200d Advance and IS 250 Advance, when ordered between 1 April and 30 June 2011 and registered and financed between 1 April and 30 September 2011, through Lexus Financial Services, Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ at participating Lexus Centres. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Terms and conditions apply. Excess mileage charge applies over 30,000 miles at 12 pence per mile. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status to over 18s only. Lexus Centres are independent of Lexus Financial Services. Subject to availability.

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Sport

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RUGBY

Businesslike TJs keen to shake off 'poachers' tag over pre-season period

By Steve Tervet

steve.tervet@archant.co.uk

TONBRIDGE Juddians will make significant additions to their squad this summer in preparation for life in the National League, but insist they will not "poach" players from rival clubs around the county.

Three consecutive league titles and a meteoric rise to the fifth tier of English rugby means TJs are viewed enviously by their counterparts around Kent. Targets at The Slade have again been set high for next season, but director of rugby, Darren Grasby, was quick to quash rumours surrounding their latest recruitment drive.

"We do not go poaching," he said. "It's happened to us so many times over the years and it's one of the reasons we did what we did. If you looked at our mini and junior sections, we used to have good 14 and 15-year-olds, but because the first-team wasn't of a reasonable standard, we lost them very quickly. We do not go poaching players, but if there's a decent youngster at another club who wants to play National League rugby, he will make his way to the best level."

"We talked to the local clubs when we first

started off down this road. We put a business plan together, it's held itself together and we are not reliant on one sugar-daddy. That jealousy has receded as we've gone up, but it will never go away because the better players coming into the area are coming to us."

Watching TJs will come at a cost to supporters next season after the club confirmed they will charge adults £5 admission for all first-team games. Work has already begun on improving the playing surface at The Slade, although Grasby said the club was essentially ready to cope with rugby at the next level.

"Facility-wise, the club has some of the best in the county," he said. "The clubhouse and changing-rooms are first-class and work is being done on the pitch to bring it up to a slightly better standard."

"We've got to put crowd barriers in and we will now be charging for admission. Some of the other National League clubs charge £8-10, but we don't want to get to a stage where people are not coming down to The Slade, so we are not going silly with the admission prices."

On the field, Tonbridge Juddians have known almost nothing but success since they began



ALL IN: Tonbridge Juddians are making plans for an assault on the National League next season

their upward assault on the regional divisions in 2008/09. With Kent derbies against Canterbury and Gravesend among the challenges facing TJs next season, Grasby is doing his best to temper expectations which will inevitably soar again.

"We had a meeting this week to discuss where we go from here," he said. "We've got into the National League, we're the highest-ranking club in the local area and we will look to strengthen the side."

"We're heading towards semi-professional rugby, we were last in this division when the two clubs [Tonbridge and Old Juddians] merged in 1999 and the quality of rugby has improved no end since then."

"To say we're quietly confident would probably be too much of a stretch. Are we confident we can win the league? It just depends, we want to bring in five or six players, but other clubs may be doing the same thing."

GOLF



MASTER CLASS: Ryder Cup captain Colin Montgomerie at last year's Golf LIVE

Big names tee up at golf show

THOUSANDS of golf fans are expected to flock to the London Golf Club this weekend to get up close to a host of household names.

Colin Montgomerie and Ian Woosnam are among the players involved with Golf LIVE, which is being held at the course near Ash for the first time.

The event, held from Friday to Sunday, allows golfers to learn from

master classes hosted by the pros, alongside a junior academy and a chance to try the latest equipment.

Montgomerie said: "Golf LIVE 2011 is a great event for any fan to watch, learn and improve their game whether they are a complete novice or a regular club golfer that needs to shave an extra stroke off their handicap."

Tickets can be purchased on the day.

RUGBY

Home test as Caprice hunts title

DAN Caprice's quest for World Series glory takes him to the home of rugby this weekend as the England Sevens team look to claw back the gap to table-toppers New Zealand.

A trip to Twickenham represents unchartered territory for Caprice, the former Sevenoaks schoolboy, who has yet to play in front of his home crowd since breaking into the team.

"It's been a lot different to how I thought the preparation would be," he said. "I thought it would be stressful, with a lot of media attention, but it's been really relaxed and we've been able to see our family and friends. I haven't been too focused on rugby, but this week we really start to build up."

England, who trail the All Blacks by 13 points, face pool games against the United States, France and Argentina on Saturday.

ATHLETICS

Bosworth back to his best in time for European Cup shot

THE sunny skies of the Algarve provide the backdrop for Tom Bosworth's biggest event of the year as the Sevenoaks race-walker heads to the European Cup in Olhão this weekend.

Bosworth, 21, narrowly missed out on a top-10 finish at the Commonwealth Games in October and has experienced mixed fortunes since the turn of the year. Two months of training in Australia were disrupted by illness and torn knee ligaments then forced him to pull out of the Australian national championships.

The Tonbridge Athletic Club member struggled to shake off the injury on his return to the UK, failing to complete a race throughout March and April. However, he stormed back to defend his 20-kilometre title at the UK National Championships on May 1 and insists he is now fully-fit and ready to take on the continent's best.

"I was surprised to win [the national title]," he said. "I knew that if I was 100 per cent fit I could win the race hands-down, but I surprised a lot of people, including myself, because my aim was just to finish the race and make sure I got to Portugal this weekend."



FOCUS: Tom Bosworth is back in form

"I'm still young, I'm the new boy on the circuit, so people aren't expecting me to do any damage, but I know I can go out and push for positions."

The Pembury-born athlete represents Great Britain at senior level for the first time in Portugal, having raced in the European Cup 10k as a junior in 2009.

One of four British men taking part in the 20k this weekend, he returns to competition just three days after taking his final exam at Leeds Metropolitan University, where he trains full-time.

FORMULA ONE

Quaife-Hobbs hits top gear in debut Formula One test

By Steve Tervet

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LIFE behind the wheel of a Formula One car appears to suit Adrian Quaife-Hobbs down to the ground after the Tonbridge racer successfully came through his first test for Marussia Virgin Racing.

The 20-year-old was selected to put the Virgin F1 car through its paces at Spain's Idiada circuit last weekend, with a view to evaluating its updated aerodynamic package ahead of Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix in Barcelona.

Quaife-Hobbs, who regularly drives for Virgin's sister team, Marussia Manor Racing in the GP3 series, completed 146 kilometres of straight-line aero testing at Idiada. As part of the team's young driver programme, he looks set to forge a closer bond with the Virgin garage as the season progresses and said his first taste of F1 power had been a dream come true.

"It was an incredibly special day for me," said Quaife-Hobbs. "Driving a Formula One car is what every young driver dreams of from the moment you start racing and it has been fantastic to finally experience that.

"I completed many runs for the team and helped them to collect a lot of data. I can't thank Marussia Virgin Racing enough for this amazing opportunity, as it really allows me to gain experience and see how a Formula One team works.

"Experiences like this only make you hungry for more and it's exciting to get a taste of what the future could hold."

Virgin are represented by Timo Glock and Jérôme d'Ambrosio in this season's F1 championship and their team principal, John Booth, was delighted by Quaife-Hobbs' maiden contribution in testing.

LE MANS 24 HOURS



Le Mans looms for Jota

JOTA Sport will travel to the 24 Hours of Le Mans with a former category race winner on board after bringing in Chris Buncombe as their third driver for the iconic race.

Alongside Jota co-owner Sam Hancock and Simon Dolan, Buncombe will pit himself against some of the world's top drivers in north-west France on June 11-12.

Hancock said: "Chris is a former winner in the LMP2 category at Le Mans and he's

also got great experience from being a factory driver for Aston Martin in 2009. He's effortless to get along with and he's slotted into the team very well."

The team, based near Tunbridge Wells, have endured mixed fortunes in the Le Mans Series so far this season. A crash at the opener in Paul Ricard saw them fall short of the classified places, but they chalked up a respectable fifth-placed finish in the GT-pro class at Spa earlier this month.



IMPRESSIVE: Adrian Quaife-Hobbs provided Marussia Virgin Racing with vital data from F1 test debut

"Congratulations to Adrian on a very impressive debut in the Marussia Virgin Racing MVR-02," he said. "It really is extremely rewarding to put these young guys in the car and see how they respond to such an opportunity."

"He acclimatised well to the car and developed a strong rapport with the engineers and mechanics, so he should feel pleased with his first day's work in a Formula One car."

"Overall, it has been a very productive test for us, with the Idiada proving ground providing us

with excellent conditions with which to test the updated package that we introduced at the last race."

"As we might have expected in its debut outing, we experienced a few teething problems in Istanbul and this test has provided us with the opportunity to understand more of the potential of the developments."

Quaife-Hobbs returns to GP3 action this weekend, lying 19th in the driver standings and still looking for his first points of the season.

TOURING CARS

Motorbase target new driver as team look to unveil a third car

MOTORBASE Performance expect to run three cars in the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) for up to 15 races this season.

The Wrotham-based team, competing as Airwaves Racing in the BTCC, want to sign a third driver in time for the August meeting at Snetterton to compete alongside Mat Jackson and Liam Griffin.

Ben Collins, formerly 'The Stig' on BBC's Top Gear, drove for Motorbase in the final round of the championship at Brands Hatch last season, but Airwaves manager Olly Collins said a three-pronged attack was now set to become a more permanent feature.

"We would like to run three cars and it's something we've been talking about this week," he said. "We don't want to have just one round, we want it to be more meaningful than that and to carry it into 2012."

"Getting Ben in the car was more of a PR exercise, but he's somebody we'd love to run in the Focus and we're also looking at various other people."



AIM: Airwaves Racing want third driver

"We've got three chassis and there's no point in having a spare one, doing nothing. We're maybe looking at the whole of the second-half, to have a third car out at Snetterton. It all comes down to money, who's available and where we are as a team."

The season resumes at Oulton Park on the weekend of June 5, with Jackson second in the drivers' championship, 12 points behind leader Matt Neal.

TOURING CARS

WITH TIM HARVEY

Touring car legend TIM HARVEY has teamed up with Archant KOS Media this season to bring you a weekly column as he looks to retain his Porsche Carrera Cup title. Harvey, who was brought up in Sevenoaks and schooled in Tonbridge, is in his second spell with Wrotham-based team Motorbase Performance. He describes his defence of the Carrera Cup crown as well as sharing his thoughts, as an ITV commentator, on the British Touring Car Championship



'BTCC must not lose characters'

“JASON PLATO'S been very outspoken about the driving standards in this season's British Touring Car Championship following his shunt at Donington Park.

He described some of the driving as 'appalling' and 'unacceptable' and you have to say, there were an unusually high number of incidents at Donington. However, at Thruxton, the racing was very good. There were some racing incidents, but the driving standard was generally very good.

I think there's a fine line between very close racing and rule-breaking. At Donington there were a few too many incidents, but that's the risk you run when you have very competitive racing.

You run that risk when you have success ballast for the cars at the front and reverse grids, when you're establishing a situation of starting the fastest cars behind the slower ones. That's unusual in motorsport because you normally have the fastest cars at the front and then people wonder why they never get any decent racing. It's certainly a recipe for entertaining racing.

Jason spoke about newcomers to the championship needing to have a greater spatial awareness when they're behind the wheel and it's true that can be an issue.

The very nature of touring cars means you get cars on all sides of you at all times and that can be an unusual experience for some driving in the championship for the first time. The championship is quite unlike anything else, but Jason was in their shoes once upon a time.

I think it's a case of some people finding their feet and everybody does have to take some responsibility. This week, Jeff Allam returned as the driving standards advisor and I think that's good, to have an ex-driver looking at the incidents when he himself has been involved in hundreds of races. He knows the game inside-out and the organisers of the championship really had to take control, otherwise things could have got out of hand.

There's absolutely no doubt that you need characters like Jason Plato in the championship. The day BTCC drivers become stereotypical clones, too worried to state their feelings is the day people will start switching off.

Touring cars is all about characters, people who speak their mind, it's the WWF of motorsport.



Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to www.kentsport.co.uk

SEVENOAKS VINE V BLACKHEATH:
12pm start at The Vine

Muchall eyes first-class deal after swapping Court for Vine

By Steve Tervet

steve.tervet@archant.co.uk

A FIRST-CLASS county contract is the motivating factor for Paul Muchall as the Sevenoaks Vine all-rounder looks to shine in his second season on the MCC's Young Cricketers (YC) scheme.

Muchall, registered with the Vine this season after following skipper Karl Pearson out of relegated Gore Court, has a full programme of 2nd XI county cricket with the MCC to digest this summer, but the 24-year-old is desperate to break into the first-class game.

Released by Durham, his home county, two years ago, Muchall joined the YC programme with hopes of returning to Chester-le-Street to fight for a first-team place, but is now spreading his net wider. He played one game for Kent in the Clydesdale Bank 40 last season and is hungry to rub shoulders with the country's top players on a more regular basis.

He said: "At the end of the line, I hope there's a first-class contract because I just want to play proper cricket and make a name for myself. I played a game with Kent last year and I enjoyed that, so I think I'm ready [for first-class cricket].

"Durham put me on the programme, they released me and said to go on it for two years, to carry on as I was. They'd played against the MCC and they were quite keen for me to be involved with them. Going back to Durham was always plan A, but I'll try and look at other counties, at other opportunities."

The MCC runs the Young Cricketers scheme to foster new talent within the game and they boast a record of one in three players going on to sign professional terms with counties. Muchall is enjoying a good run of form in the 2nd XI south division, including a knock of 132 against Surrey's 2nd XI at The Oval.

However, his season took an unexpected twist when he was called up to the MCC senior side for the Champion County game against Nottinghamshire in Dubai, replacing injured Somerset bowler Steven Kirby.

Despite making just four runs, Muchall said the chance to play alongside Indian legend Rahul Dravid and Australia's Chris Rogers had

PEARSON READY FOR HEATH

SEVENOAKS Vine face something of an unknown challenge this weekend as they take on a Blackheath side renowned for their inconsistency.

Relegated from the Premier Division in 2009, Blackheath bounced back at the first attempt last summer and Vine skipper Karl Pearson admits it is hard to know what sort of test to expect on Saturday.

"Blackheath are a bit of an enigma," he said. "There's not a lot you can do to prepare for a game like this because they have got quite a few players who can either be very good or very average. I hope we come up against the Blackheath who aren't concentrating, but we'll be preparing the same as we always do."

Whatever this weekend brings, Sevenoaks will take confidence from their 29-run win at The Mote, which saw Pearson hit 43 in the Vine's total of 228 and then scooping 5 for 29 as the home side were bowled out for 199.

Tyler Griffin, Pearson's former Gore Court team-mate, scored 99 for the Vine.

only served to strengthen his desire to forge a cricketing career.

"Going to Dubai was brilliant, one of the best cricketing experiences I've had," he said. "Being around Rahul Dravid and Steve Kirby, all those sort of names, was a great opportunity. I managed to have a net with Rogers and he took an interest, he helped me out, as did [Lancashire's] Gary Keedy, they're all really good blokes.

"I've made a good start this season, I've really gone well and I'm looking forward to every game. I'm scoring runs and taking wickets, so you can't ask for much more than that."

Muchall's MCC commitments are likely to restrict him to a handful of games at the Vine. Last season, he turned out 12 times for Gore Court in the Premier Division, scoring 495 runs.



HOPE: Paul Muchall wants a first-class contract

KENT CRICKET LEAGUES

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	WD	BatP	BowlP	Pts
Tunbridge Wells	3	2	0	3	4	39
Bexley	2	1	1	4	2	28
Lordswood	2	1	0	4	2	26
Sipton Park	3	1	0	4	2	26
Blackheath	2	1	0	0	4	24
Sevenoaks Vine	2	1	0	2	1	23
The Mote	2	1	0	2	1	23
Bromley	2	1	0	0	3	18
Hartley Country Club	2	0	1	6	6	18
Bickley Park	2	0	0	4	7	11

DIVISION ONE

Canterbury	2	2	0	0	0	40
Beckham	2	2	0	0	0	36
Folkestone	2	2	0	0	0	36
Sandwich Town	2	1	0	2	4	26
St Lawrence	2	1	0	3	1	24
Tenterden	2	1	0	0	1	21
Whitstable	2	0	1	5	3	14
Ashford Town	2	0	0	5	6	11
Broadstairs	2	0	0	6	4	10
Gore Court	2	0	0	3	7	10

DIVISION TWO

Harvel	2	2	0	0	0	36
Hythe	2	2	0	0	0	36
Upchurch	2	2	0	0	0	32
Orpington	2	1	0	0	0	30
Dartford	2	1	0	0	1	25
HSBC	2	1	0	4	1	25
Hayes	2	0	0	4	7	11
Holmesdale	2	0	0	6	5	11
Catford and Cyphers	2	0	0	6	3	9
Gravesend	2	0	0	6	3	9

DIVISION THREE

Bromley Common	2	2	0	0	0	32
Catford Wanderers	2	1	0	3	2	25
Old Cafteians	2	1	0	1	2	23
Old Ethamians	2	1	0	3	4	23
High Halstow	2	1	0	1	1	22
Addington Village	2	1	0	4	1	21
Linden Park	2	1	0	1	2	19
Sidcup	2	1	0	0	0	16
Minster (Shepway)	2	0	1	4	6	16
Old Wilsonians	2	0	0	2	8	10

DIVISION FIVE

Nonington	2	2	0	0	0	40
Cowdrey	2	2	0	0	0	36
Bapchild	2	1	1	4	4	30
Bromley Town	2	1	1	4	3	29
Chislehurst & West K...	2	1	0	3	2	25
Blackheath 3rd XI	2	1	0	4	3	23
Offham	2	0	0	0	8	8
Bickley Park 3rd XI	2	0	0	4	4	8
Wickham Park	2	0	0	2	4	6
Walmer	2	0	0	0	2	2

FIXTURES

(All games start at 11.15pm unless otherwise stated)

PREMIER DIVISION (NOON START): Sevenoaks Vine v Blackheath

DIVISION ONE: Tenterden v Ashford Town

DIVISION TWO: Catford and Cyphers v Holmesdale

DIVISION THREE: Old Wilsonians v Linden Park

DIVISION FIVE: Walmer v Cowdrey

CRICKET

Record run-chase lights up the Nevill as Tunbridge Wells chalk up historic league win against Lords

TUNBRIDGE Wells Cricket Club made history last weekend when they completed the highest successful run-chase in the Kent League.

Set a daunting target of 312 to win their Premier Division game against Lordswood at the Nevill, few would have given the Wells a chance of leaving the ground victorious.

However, an extraordinary afternoon's cricket proceeded to unfold as the Wells, led by opener Alexander Williams' 83, began to take the fight to their Medway visitors. Williams shared a superb stand of 73 with Richard Cutts and at 158 for 2, the chase looked to be on, before Lordswood stunned their hosts with three wickets in six balls.

Now facing a mountainous task to keep their hopes of an unlikely triumph on track, the Wells looked to Chris Williams and Brough Cooper to salvage the situation.

The pair rattled along at sevens runs an over to plant a seed of doubt in the Lordswood minds, but when Cooper was run out for 61, the game was back in the balance. However, Williams (79 not out) and Simon Routh completed the job on the very last ball of the game, with Routh hitting backward of point to find the two runs needed for victory.

Wells skipper, Evert Bekker, said: "It was a fantastic result for us. Obviously, at the halfway stage we thought it was a very competitive total, a tough one to chase, and we weren't very happy with the way

we performed in the first-half of the game. We showed a great deal of application and character to come back from that.

"There's a great sense of belief within the club and the game's never lost until the last ball's been bowled. We know the conditions well and we knew that if we started well, we always had a chance.

"Everyone batted well and we created the partnerships which allowed us to really have a go towards the end. It's a massive achievement, a record for the club and something I'm personally very proud of."

Without a league game this weekend, the Wells can focus all their attentions on next Sunday's ECB Cup tie away to Sussex League side Preston Nomads.

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TOP KNOCK: Alexander Williams led the charge with 83 for Wells

Sport

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TONBRIDGE ANGELS



Picture: DAVE COULDREIDGE

Budget talks keep Warrilow waiting to offer crucial deals

By Steve Tervet

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TONBRIDGE Angels manager Tommy Warrilow is concerned some of his top players may be tempted away from the club while the Longmead board continue to draw up a playing budget for next season.

Since the Angels won promotion from the Ryman Premier Division, Warrilow has been unable to offer new deals to any of his existing squad, although a number of clubs have made approaches to Tonbridge players.

Warrilow is itching to start moulding his squad for life in Conference South, but chairman Steve Churher and the Angels board will meet the club's benefactors and sponsors before agreeing on a figure for the manager to work with.

"I'm trying to sit down with the board and get something together so I can talk to the boys about next season," Warrilow said.

"They obviously want to know what's happening, but we have our presentation night on May 27 and the week after that, I'll be calling the

boys. I hope they'll be patient, but I know a few have already been spoken to by other clubs, in the Conference South and the Ryman Premier.

"It's a frustrating time, but we have to make sure we've left no stone unturned regarding what we can offer players. I need them to be patient but we do run the risk, if someone offers them a very good deal, they might sign it."

Churher acknowledged Warrilow's desire to start laying the foundations for another successful season on the field, but said the long-term health of the club would take priority.

"Tom would love to do the budget straight away, but we just can't do it," he said. "We really did go for it in the last few weeks of the season, but we're in with the big boys now and we have to sit down and plan it properly."

"The whole thing has got to be slightly more professional. We are looking to consolidate our position as a Conference South club and we will give Tom the maximum we can afford."

"He's champing at the bit, but we would rather wait four or five days to come up with a half-reasonable budget than a half-cocked budget."

We have to sit down with the benefactors and the sponsors, see what they're up to next season and work it out from there.

"Tom wants to win it, and it would be fantastic if we could, but we've got to keep our feet on the ground and take it from there. We've got to get it right off the field, and things on the field will follow. We've got to come up with something sustainable and I'd much rather budget conservatively and see how we get on."

Meanwhile, Warrilow played down rumours linking Carl Rook with a permanent move back to Longmead after the striker was one of five players released by Dartford on Tuesday. Rook made 14 appearances during a loan spell with the Angels at the end of the season, but the Tonbridge boss admitted his transfer radar was focused elsewhere.

Warrilow said: "I've got a few main targets to prioritise and then I'll build around that. As a player, Carl hasn't got to prove anything to me, his goal-scoring record is ridiculous, but I've got forwards ringing me up and I've got forwards already at the club."

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Wells boss on the front foot in transfer tussle



Picture: NICK DUNGAN

STRESS: Tunbridge Wells boss Martin Larkin

MARTIN Larkin is already in discussions with a series of potential new signings as Tunbridge Wells look to get their transfer business done early in the close-season.

The Wells manager, who revealed several of his players have already turned down requests to join Ryman League clubs this summer, is taking the fight to his rivals by seeking out four new faces to join his squad at Culverden.

"We're looking to add one in each area [of the pitch], and we're in discussions with five or six others," Larkin said. "If we can get the top four on our list, we'd be very pleased, but that's probably not going to happen."

"No-one's under contract so for me, it's quite a stressful time wondering if our guys are going to get phone calls. I take that stress away by contacting other players, and everyone knows our situation in terms of selling the club to them. It will probably be a longer conversation with us than with other managers, because we can't say 'come here for 80 quid'."

"It's a good five or six weeks until pre-season starts, so even if someone says 'yes' to me tomorrow, that doesn't make it concrete. Our runs in the FA Cup and FA Vase make it a little bit easier [to attract players]. Players coming here want to improve, they don't want to pick up £30 or £40 a week, which isn't life-changing money."

All Larkin's players have verbally agreed to stay with the club next season, although centre-back Perry Spackman is just one of the transfer targets attracting attention from elsewhere.

"Perry gets phone calls most weeks," Larkin said. "The seven-day rule doesn't seem to apply to Perry because everyone phones him willy-nilly, but he's as committed as anyone."

TONBRIDGE ANGELS

Worgan ready for Conference South challenge

LEE Worgan cannot wait to test himself against the sharpest strikers in Conference South after becoming the first Tonbridge Angels player to re-sign for the club following their promotion-winning campaign.

The former Wales under-21 international will remain as Angels' goalkeeper next season after the club took up the option to extend his contract immediately after beating Lowestoft Town in the Ryman Premier Division play-off final.

Worgan, 27, was overjoyed to clinch promotion at the end of his third season with Tonbridge and is now itching for pre-season to start as the

Angels prepare to compete at the highest level in the club's history.

"There was no doubt about me staying anyway," he said. "To be there three years, at a club I've grown to love, the supporters, the management and the board, I wouldn't have gone anywhere. It's massive, the club's never been this high before and I want to be part of that."

"I've been playing in the Ryman League for four or five years and I'd got to a point where I wanted to go higher. I'm looking forward to going to Farnborough, Dover and Dartford, playing at good grounds against great players."

Having kept goal for Wimbledon, MK Dons, Rushden & Diamonds and Cardiff City earlier in his career, Worgan is often questioned over his desire to climb the football pyramid again. However, the Angels stopper says he has never felt more appreciated and expects to entertain the Longmead faithful for a while longer.

He said: "The older you get, the better you become because you learn from situations. There are still parts of my game I need to develop, but I'll take that on board. The club have got so much confidence in me, every time I go out for Tonbridge I feel like I'm going to play well."



BUZZING: Lee Worgan is staying at Tonbridge



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